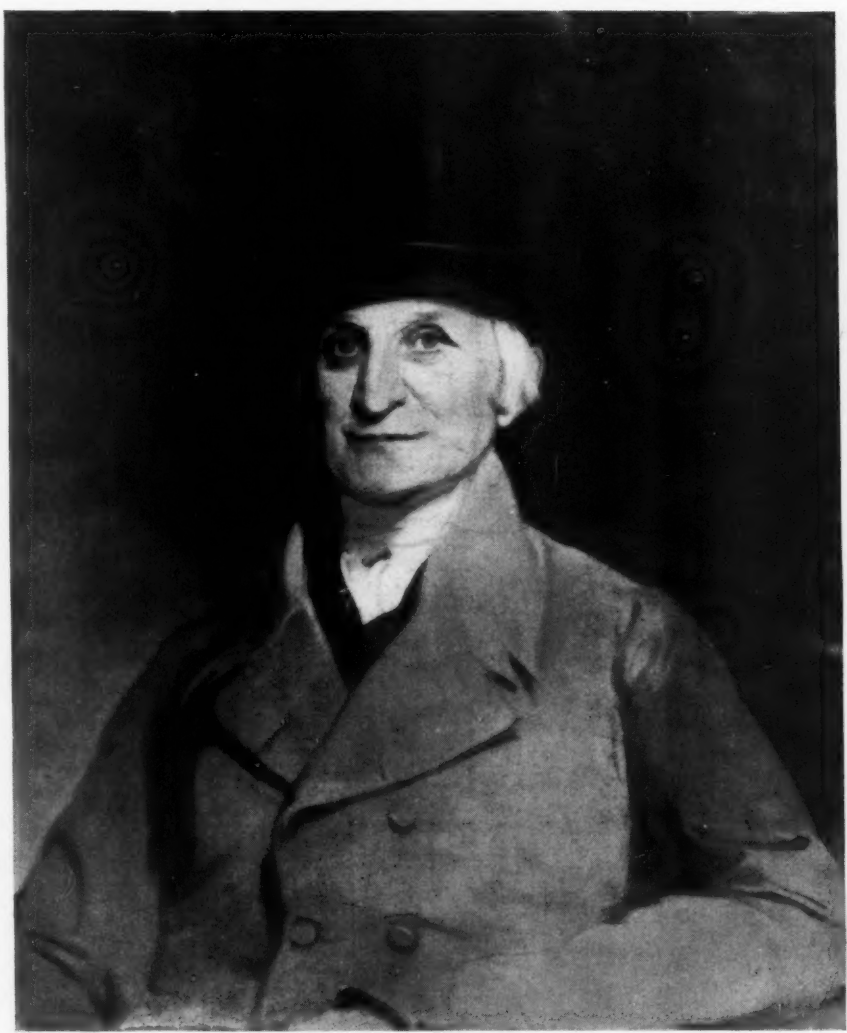


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## INSURANCE NOTES

### LONG SERVICE

Administrative Director Fridtjof Rosendahl, of Bergen Fire Insurance Co., had on May 1 been in the service of this company for 40 years. Next day he and Mrs. Rosendahl could celebrate their silver wedding.

### NEW DANISH COMPANY

The insurance company, Three Lions, was recently formed in Copenhagen, with a share capital of 50,000 kroner, 25 per cent of which has been paid in.

### ONE YEAR'S BUSINESS

The insurance effected by the Sea Insurance

Company, Ltd., of Stockholm, organized in 1889, amounted during 1919 to 216,996,052 kronor, as compared with 182,865,905 kronor in 1918. It was recommended to pay a dividend of 22 per cent.

### COMPANY ENTERS FIRE INSURANCE

Swedish Lloyd Insurance Company, of Stockholm, which writes transportation business, and was organized in 1916 with a share capital of 2,000,000 kronor, has decided to enter also the fire insurance field.

### FINNISH MILLS BURN

Kissakoski Paper Mills in Finland were recently burned down to the ground, causing a loss of 10,000,000 Finnish marks. Two persons lost their lives, and many were hurt.

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## FINANCIAL

*Notes About Issues in the Financial World  
Most Interesting to Readers of the Review*

### IMPORT PROHIBITIONS AND EXCHANGE

The secretary to the American embassy at Copenhagen states that the Minister of Commerce has introduced a bill in the Danish lower house of parliament authorizing him to establish rulings to make importations and customs clearances of goods into Denmark dependent on proof that payment for the goods has been permitted by the Foreign Exchange Council set up December 15, 1919. The bill further provides for the addition to the Council of the Ministry of Commerce.

Penalties will be in effect as soon as the bill is passed, and will remain in force until the end of 1920. In his report submitted with the bill, the Minister of Commerce points out that the attempt to improve the rate of exchange by unofficial efforts of the Council with the co-operation of the banks has failed to prevent arrangements being made for the importation of goods not sanctioned by the Council. It is therefore thought best to reinforce these efforts with legal authority.

### IMPROVING CURRENCY VALUES

A Financial Council has been making exhaustive inquiries into the financial position in Denmark to determine what should be done to raise the value of Denmark's currency to its proper level. The Financial Council's executive, which originally was composed of the heads of the five leading banks, has sought additional strength by the addition of five representatives of industries and commerce, farmers, and laborers.

Denmark has to fall back principally on its export of agricultural products, but this has been possible only to a much smaller extent than before the war. It is necessary therefore to limit imports to articles absolutely needed. Banks and brokers are not to furnish their clients with foreign currency in any shape or form except to pay for commodities indispensable to the country and all such requests must be submitted in detail to the Financial Council.

### BANK EXTENSION IN NORTH SLESVIG

Danish banks are hastening to avail themselves of the return of North Slesvig to Denmark. Copenhagen Handelsbank has contracted with Schlesvig-Holsteinsche Bank to take over the branches of the latter in North Slesvig. The Landmandsbank is erecting branch offices in all the important acquired towns, and the Danske Andelsbank has purchased several "sparekasser" (savings banks) in Slesvig which will be opened under its name when the province is officially handed over to Denmark. Other banks are reported to have similar plans.

### TAX RECEIPTS 1919-1920

Results of assessment for income and property tax in Denmark for the year 1919-20, based mainly on returns of income in 1918 and property at the beginning of 1919, show that the number of income-tax payers is 691,000, as against 600,000 in 1918-19, an increase of 15 per cent, while the increase in the population is only 1 per cent. The total income reported for 1918 is 2,458 million

kroner, as against 1,923 million kroner in the previous year, an increase of 28 per cent.

### STATUS OF THE NORWEGIAN MONEY MARKET

Weekly reports of the position of the Norges Bank show a continued betterment of the money market since the stringency of December. The note circulation has been reduced by about 62 million kroner since December 22 last.

Among others, three factors have contributed largely to the improvement:

(1) The great demand for and high prices paid for cellulose and paper in foreign countries, which has permitted the disposal of large stocks in which large sums of money had been tied up.

(2) The closing of the period for paying state taxes.

(3) The payment of dollar and sterling debts to Norway at the present rates of exchange, and, to some extent, the sale of securities held in foreign countries whose exchanges are at a premium.

Reports of the private banks for the last year show that the available capital has risen to over Kr. 5 billion, an increase of more than Kr. 4 billion over the figures for 1914.

### INCREASE GOLD RESERVE

The Bank of Sweden had, on February 21, 1920, a greater percentage of gold and bullion in its vaults in comparison with its notes in circulation than it had on December 31, 1914—just after the war began—or on any succeeding December 31 up to and including December 31, 1918, after the Armistice. The percentage of gold was at these dates approximately 35 per cent. In January, 1920, the percentage had become 41 per cent, which also prevailed on February 21 last.

This condition existed when the Inter-Scandinavian Foreign Exchange Conference met in Christiania on February 23 to February 25. Five bankers from each of the countries, Sweden, Norway, and Denmark, participated in the conference to discuss foreign exchange and the general financial situation.

### REFUSE TO RELEASE GOLD FOR EXPORT

The conference refused to recommend releasing gold for export. The export of gold it was said might reduce the government banks' holdings to such an extent that the gold reserve stipulated in the bank laws might be attacked, with the resultant weakening of the countries' credit abroad. The conference held that the free flow of Scandinavia's gold, while the movement of gold in other countries was still restricted, would be too hazardous an experiment.

The conclusion, therefore, was that no single group of countries working alone could escape from the existing evils and that the stabilization of foreign exchanges could be settled only by international co-operation. In the meanwhile each country must determine its own financial policy.

Following the example set by Sweden, the Bank of Norway by Royal Resolution, on March 20, suspended gold payment until further notice.

*Financial Notes for This Issue Supplied by the  
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## CONTRIBUTORS TO THE JULY NUMBER

Innumerable chromo reproductions can not stale *The Bridal on the Hardangerfjord*, which is possibly the most popular of all ADOLF TIDEMAND's paintings. While it distinctly typifies what has become known in a later realistic age as the "Sunday peasant," it is nevertheless a work of such beauty and dignity that it can hold its own in spite of changing customs. In the REVIEW for January, 1916, Professor Christian Collin compares the different conception of the Norwegian peasant in Tidemand and in Björnson.

SELMA LAGERLÖF's poem, "The Goddess of Peace," was written during the peace negotiations and appeared in a Swedish newspaper, from which a friend of the REVIEW clipped it and sent it to us. We are indebted to Mr. STORK for his excellent translation.

RASMUS B. ANDERSON is indisputably the pioneer in the work of making Norwegian culture known in America. He first became known through his book, *America Not Discovered by Columbus*, published in 1874. His *Norse Mythology* is the standard work used in American colleges, and his translation of Winkel Horn's history of Scandinavian literature is still the only work to which we can refer students. Among his numerous other translations are Björnson's early peasant stories. He was professor of Scandinavian Languages and Literature in the University of Wisconsin from 1875 to 1883—the first to hold such a position in any American university—and was American minister to Denmark from 1885 to 1889.

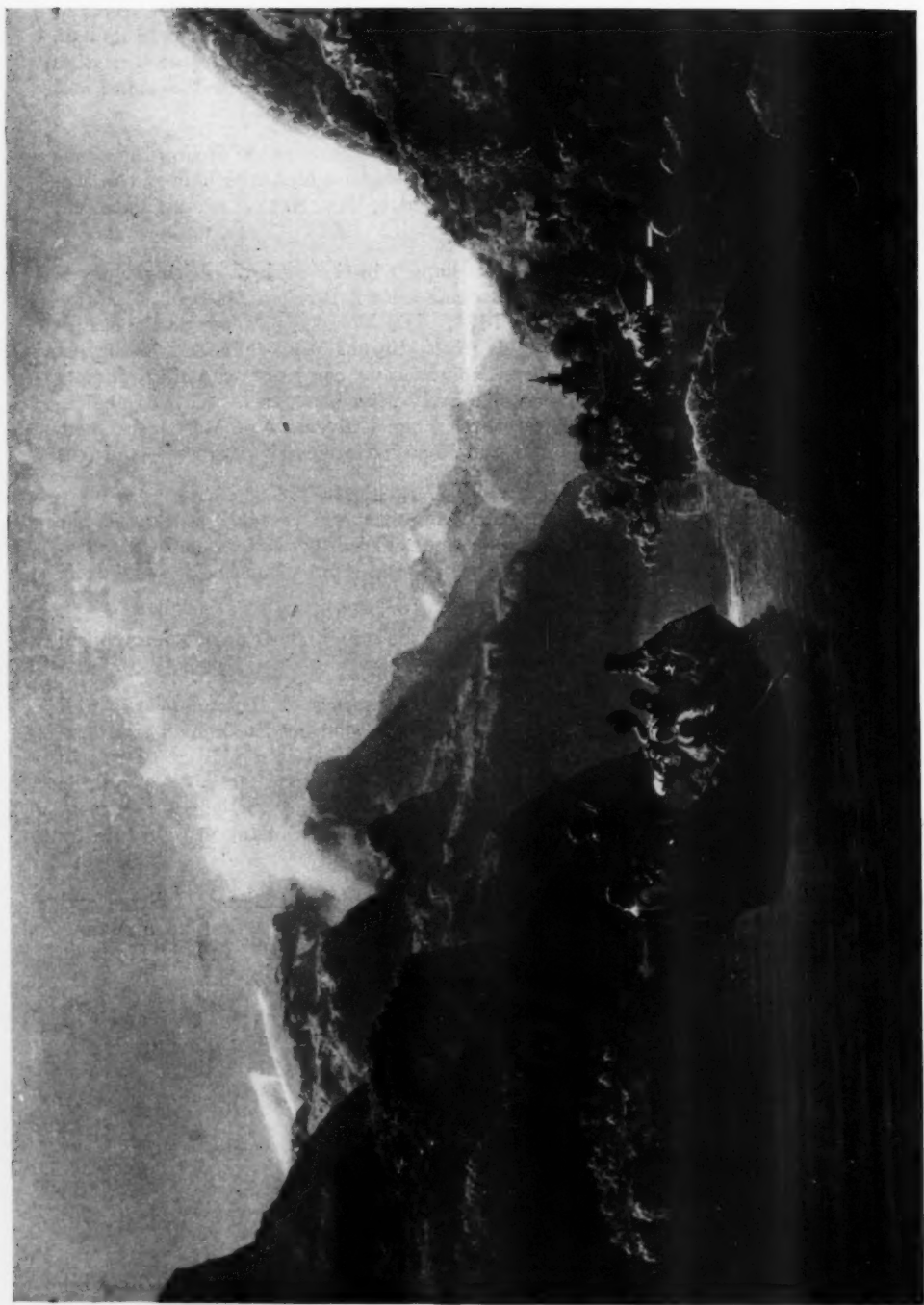
M. ATHERTON LEACH, of Philadelphia, is a writer and research worker in the domain of early American history, who will be remembered by readers of the REVIEW as the author of "Some Account of New Sweden and Her Churches," and "John Morton."

KATHERINE ADAMS is a young American poet, the daughter of our former consul in Sweden.

GUNNAR GUNNARSSON is one of the present day writers of Iceland who is well known in the Scandinavian countries, and will no doubt soon become known to American readers. His two-volume novel, *The Great Borg Clan*, is a picture of life in modern Iceland, and contains some parts of surpassing beauty. His last work is *The Blood Brothers*, a story of the first immigrants from Norway to Iceland. MINNA WRESCHNER made her bow to REVIEW readers with her fine translation of a tale by Jeppe Aakjaer in our last July Number.

GEORGE H. RYDEN was formerly Professor of History at Bethany College, and after we entered the war was in the service of the Government first as a Young Men's Christian Association worker in this country and afterwards abroad. He is at present in Poland. Mr. BENSON is a frequent contributor to the REVIEW.

CARL SNOILSKY was a Swedish nobleman of Polish descent. He lived much of his life in southern Europe and brought into Swedish poetry a rich, glowing, exotic element which had great influence on the younger poets. He died in 1903.



*From a Painting by Adolf Tidemand*

THE BRIDAL PROCESSION ON THE HARDANGERFJORD

# THE AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN REVIEW

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VOLUME VIII

JULY, 1920

NUMBER 7

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## The Goddess of Peace

By SELMA LAGERLÖF

*Translated from the Swedish by* CHARLES WHARTON STORK

*Peace, the one-time radiant goddess,  
Now sits bent with heavy sorrow;  
For the wicked war-troll, snatching  
From its crib her lovely infant,  
Left another brat as changeling,  
Cross, claw-fingered, and misshapen,  
Thirsting after blood and tear-streams,  
Hungering, too, for death and ravage.  
Peace, ah woe is thee, poor mother!*

*These two courses now are open:  
Cast the troll-child from its cradle;  
Leave it on the public highway,  
Let it grow into a savage,  
Free from all restraint of nurture,  
Till it gains the strength of manhood;  
Or adopt it to your bosom,  
Take it to your mother bosom!*

*Yield not to the fit of anger,  
But caress the changeling infant,  
Tame it, Peace, with kind thoughts tame it,  
Mould its nature with your mildness,  
Till it lose its claws and tushes,  
And at last some radiant morning  
Be transformed into the lost one,  
And you sit there, dazed with rapture  
With your own child in your bosom.*



## Kleng Peerson

*The Father of Norwegian Immigration to America*

By RASMUS B. ANDERSON

All reports agree that Kleng Peerson from the farm Hesthammer, Tysver parish, Stavanger county, was the man who gave the first impetus to the emigration of Norwegians to America. He was born in Tysver, May 17, 1782. In the year 1821 he with a comrade, Knud Olson Eide, from the small island, Fogn, near Stavanger, left Norway and went by way of Göteborg, Sweden, to New York to make an investigation of conditions and opportunities in the new world. From all the information I have been able to gather—and I have interviewed a large number of the oldest Norwegian settlers in America—there remains no doubt in my mind that Kleng and Knud were sent on this mission by the Quakers of Stavanger and vicinity. It is nowhere positively stated that Peerson and Eide were themselves Quakers, but I have the testimony of persons who knew them both well that they were dissenters from the established Church of Norway. Kleng Peerson was strongly attached to the Quakers and doubtless sympathized with their religious views so far as he gave the matter any thought, but neither Peerson nor Eide had at this time any pronounced religious convictions. They appear to have lacked to a great extent the religious temperament.

After a sojourn of three years in America, all that time presumably spent in and around New York City, where they did such work as they could find, Kleng returned to Stavanger and Tysver in 1824. Here his reports of social, political, and religious conditions in America and his description of opportunities in the New World awakened the greatest interest, and culminated in a resolution to emigrate. Lars Larson i Jeilane, the man at whose house the first Quaker meeting had been held in Stavanger, in 1816, at once undertook to organize a party of emigrants, and was successful in finding a number of people who were willing and ready to join him. Six heads of families converted their scanty worldly possessions into money, and purchased for \$1800 a sloop which had been built in Hardanger between Stavanger and Bergen and which they loaded with a cargo of iron. Of this enterprise Lars Larson was the leader. He had acquired a pretty thorough knowledge of the English language during his sojourn in England, and the general supervision of the preparations and of the voyage naturally fell into his intelligent hands. The captain, Lars Olson, and the mate, Erikson, were engaged by him.

This little Norwegian Mayflower of the nineteenth century received the name *Restaurationen* (The Restoration), and on the American Day of Independence, July 4, 1825, this brave and precious band

of emigrants sailed out of the harbor of the ancient and quaint city of Stavanger. The company consisted of fifty-two persons including the two officers mentioned, chiefly from Stavanger and from Tysver parish north of that city. They were fifty-two when they left Stavanger; but when they reached New York on the second Sunday of October (October 9) they numbered fifty-three, Mrs. Martha Georgiana Larson, the wife of the leader, having given birth to a beautiful girl baby in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, on September 2.

Their fourteen weeks' journey across the Atlantic was a romantic and perilous one. The stories of that voyage told to me by our nearest neighbor in Albion, Wisconsin, who was one of the party, were the delight of my boyhood. He told me how they had passed through the British Channel and, a few days later, had anchored at the Lizard on the coast of England. Here they sold liquor to the inhabitants, which was against the law, and when they perceived the danger in which they had thus placed themselves, they made haste to steer the little craft out upon the boundless ocean. They must either have lost their reckoning or have been looking for the trade winds, or the captain may have been somewhat deficient in his knowledge of navigation, or—to take a more charitable view of the case—the wind may have been against them; for when we next hear of them we find them drifting into the harbor of Funchal in the Madeira Islands. Near these islands they had found a pipe of wine floating on the sea. It must have been very old wine, for the cask was entirely covered with huge barnacles. Lars Larson got out in the yawl boat to fish it up, and while he was putting a rope around the pipe, a shark came near biting his hand off. Both officers and passengers had to taste the delicious contents of this pipe of wine, and the result was that most of them showed more or less of its effects. They consequently neglected their duties to the sloop and came drifting into the harbor of Funchal without colors and without command. Here it was feared that they had some kind of contagious disease on board, and an officer of a Bremen vessel anchored in the harbor shouted to them that if they did not wish to be greeted by the cannon already being aimed at them from the fortress they had better hoist their colors at once. Thorstein Olson Bjaadland, our nearest neighbor in Albion, Wisconsin, never tired of telling me this story, and he always added that it was he who hunted up the Norwegian flag, which had been stowed away with other baggage, and, with the assistance of others, ran it up to the top of the mast, thus averting the danger. A couple of custom house officers then came on board the sloop, and found everything in good order. Much attention was shown the party at Funchal. The American consul increased their store of provisions, giving them also an abundance of grapes, and before their departure he invited the whole sloop party to a sumptuous

dinner. They arrived in Funchal on Thursday, July 28, and left the following Sunday, July 31. As they sailed out of the harbor, the fortress fired a salute in their honor.

Four weeks had passed since they left Stavanger, and for ten weary weeks more the sloop had to contend with the angry waves of the Atlantic. Neither the captain nor the mate were seamen in the strict sense of the word; but Lars Larson was by trade a ship's carpenter, and most of the other adult men on board, having been reared on the coast of Norway as fishermen, were naturally familiar with the sea.

In New York quite a sensation was awakened by the fact that these Norwegians had ventured to cross the ocean in so small a craft. Such a thing had hardly been heard of before. Here, too, they got into trouble with the authorities for having a larger cargo and a larger number of passengers than the American laws permitted a ship of the size of the sloop to carry, and in consequence of this violation of Uncle Sam's laws, Captain Lars Olson was arrested, and the ship with its cargo was seized by the custom house authorities in New York. After a few days the matter was amicably adjusted.

Kleng Peerson was in America when the sloop *Restaurationen* arrived there. Instead of risking his life in the sloop, he had again gone by way of Göteborg, Sweden, and was already in New York, prepared to receive his friends and to give them all the assistance that he was able. He had found Quakers in New York who were anxious to extend to our Norwegian pilgrims a welcome and such help as they most needed.

I have it from the lips of passengers who came in the sloop that the Quakers in New York took a deep interest in these Norwegian newcomers, who were well nigh destitute of clothing and money. These friends gave many of them shelter under their own roofs and supplied them with money to relieve their most pressing needs. The Quakers showed themselves in this case, as everywhere in history, to be friends indeed. Mrs. Atwater, the lady who was born on the sloop, has told me on the positive authority of her parents how kind the Quakers in New York were to all the sloop people. Enough money was raised by the Friends to pay the expenses of the "sloopers," six dollars for each, from New York City to the town of Kendall in Orleans County, New York, where farms could be secured for them, and in this manner the first Norwegian settlement in America in the nineteenth century was founded.

Kleng Peerson, however, had too much of the pioneer's itching foot to remain in Kendall more than a few years. Soon he was pressing on to the West. He was without a shadow of doubt the first Norwegian who came west of the Great Lakes, and I have com-

plete evidence that he visited LaSalle County, Illinois, as early as 1833. In company with a Quaker from Tysver, Ingebret Larson Narvig (who had come from Norway to Boston in 1831 and had *walked* from there to Kendall) and another man, he started on his way to the far West. After a few days Narvig left him, and went to work for a farmer in Michigan, but Kleng and presumably the other man, whose identity I have never been able to establish, continued the journey until they reached LaSalle County, Illinois, and there selected the location for a settlement.

He often repeated the story of how, while he was exploring the region afterwards settled by his countrymen, he became weary, one day, and lay down under a tree to rest. He fell asleep and dreamed, and in his dream he saw the wild prairie changed into a cultivated region, teeming with all kinds of grain and fruit most beautiful to behold; splendid houses and barns dotted the land occupied by a rich, prosperous, and happy people. Alongside the fields of waving grain large splendid herds of cattle were feeding. Kleng interpreted this as a vision, and as a token from Almighty God that his countrymen should come there and settle. He forgot his pain and hunger and thanked God that He had permitted his eyes to behold this beautiful region, and he decided to advise his countrymen to come west and settle there. He thought of Moses who from the mountain had looked into the Land of Promise. Refreshed and nerved anew by his dream, he went back to Kendall and persuaded his friends to emigrate to the region he had visited. In the spring of 1834 he, with several others, moved out to Illinois and founded the so-called Fox River settlement in the town of Mission, LaSalle County, not far from the present city of Ottawa, and thus was founded the second Norwegian settlement in America. Thousands of natives of Norway and their descendants now occupy happy and prosperous homes in the Fox River Valley and throughout the great Northwest, thanks in part at least to the leadership and effort of that remarkable man, Kleng Peerson. Kleng's dream may have been dreamed awake, but it has been fully realized.

I have met at least a score of people who were more or less intimately acquainted with Kleng Peerson. My own father and mother knew him well. My father died in my fifth year, so I cannot report anything from his lips; but I often discussed Kleng Peerson with my mother. She described him as a restless rover, as a man of an independent, indomitable spirit, quick to resent any suggestion of restraint. I did not have the pleasure of meeting Kleng personally. His visits at the home of my parents occurred in LaSalle County, Illinois, before I was born, and when I became old enough to have a desire to see him he was living in Texas.



The Kendall and Fox River settlements are Kleng's undying glory. While the records show that he bought a considerable amount of land, he did not settle on it. He did not care to work. He needed but little for his support, and this little he got largely by visiting among his relatives and friends. Many of the early settlers in La Salle County were Kleng's relatives. He was a man of strict integrity, and any matter entrusted to him would be performed with scrupulous honesty. I may state with emphasis that he looked upon himself as the chosen pathfinder and father of Norwegian immigration. At the homes where he visited he would ask the housewife for her knitting and request her to make coffee. He would then lie down on the bed and knit and drink coffee and talk about his extensive travels. He was an excellent story teller and consequently a welcome visitor everywhere. I have heard it said of Kleng that he spoke English fluently, that he could read French, and that he was able to make himself understood among the Germans. With the Norwegian he therefore had more or less command of four languages. To the Americans he was able to describe the scenery and life of old Norway; to his own countrymen he could give an account of the soil and climate in various parts of America. People gathered around him wherever he went, to listen to his reports and stories, and when Kleng came to a neighborhood the day was usually turned into a holiday. Under such circumstances it is easily understood that he did not need to work, and that his few wants were supplied without his being a mendicant, and he was content with very little. He was a carpenter by trade, and what he earned, when he occasionally did work, he gave freely to his countrymen who needed assistance.

The next glimpse we get of Kleng, after he had founded the Fox River settlement, is in Shelby County, in the northeastern corner of Missouri, in the year 1837. There he also founded, or at least tried to found, a Norwegian settlement. Kleng must have crossed the Mississippi before 1837, because he had already selected the location for the settlement when in March of that year in company with Jacob Anderson Slogvig, Anders Askeland, and twelve others he went from LaSalle County to Missouri. Writers have complained that Shelby County was badly chosen, but Andrew Simonson, who was one of the party and who in October, 1879, was still living, wrote in a Norwegian newspaper that "no settlement ever founded by Norwegians in America had a better appearance or better location than this very land in Shelby County of which the Norwegians took possession at that time and which they in part still own."

In seeking the reason why the venture was not so successful as the earlier ones, we must remember that Missouri was a slave state, a fact very distasteful to the Norwegians, and of course Shelby



County was far from any market. It being reported that there was good land to be had in Lee County, Iowa, only seven miles west of Keokuk, Kleng, at the request of Andrew Simonson and others, went there to inspect it, and the result was that Andrew Simonson and the majority of the settlers in Shelby County moved to Lee County, Iowa, for the sake of a nearer market, but Mr. Simonson insists that they did not get as good land as they left in Missouri. Thus it appears that Kleng became the founder both of the settlement in Shelby County, Missouri, and of that in Lee County, Iowa, the former in 1837, the latter in 1840.

Kleng purchased eighty acres of land in Shelby County. To recruit his colony there he went to Norway in 1838, and in 1839 we find him bringing back with him a group of immigrants. Kleng had done his recruiting in old Stavanger county and had secured as emigrants for his Missouri colony a carpenter, by name, Ole Reiersen, and his family; three brothers, Peter, William, and Hans Tesman; Nils Olson, and six or seven women. On arriving in New York, he proceeded with them to Cleveland, where he decided to take them by way of the Ohio River to Missouri. But the water in the Ohio was low, and the party suffered many inconveniences before they reached their destination. Kleng's reason for going by way of the Ohio River was that the two persons mentioned above who came with him to Missouri in 1837, Jacob Slogvig and Anders Askeland, had gone back to LaSalle County dissatisfied, and Kleng feared that if he went by way of the Fox River settlement, his recruits might be dissuaded from proceeding with him to his Missouri settlement. The brothers Tesman and possibly others of this company later went to the Sugar Creek settlement in Lee County, Iowa.

In 1842 Kleng made a third visit to Norway, but of this journey I have little knowledge. Mr. O. Canuteson, one of the early Norwegian settlers in Texas and a prosperous business man in Waco of that state, wrote me under date of December 16, 1894: "I am sure Kleng made three trips to Norway. He came to my father's house near Kobbervig north of Stavanger. He brought letters from America to my father and others. I remember seeing him, and I particularly remember a peculiarly made cloak that he wore. He had an atlas of the world and showed us the maps, etc., and he took occasion to express himself as opposed to the power the churches were exercising over the people. What started him was that he found pictures of churches on the maps indicating that the countries were Christian. I remember that he had it in for the Catholics. My father and I transported him a short distance in a boat to a man who had a son in America." This was probably in the autumn of 1842, for in May, 1843, we find Kleng a passenger on the bark *Juno*,

which sailed from Bergen to New York with eighty passengers. Ole Canuteson came with his father, Knud Knudson, to the Fox River settlement in 1850.

In 1847 Kleng sold his eighty acres of land in Shelby County, Missouri, and joined the Swedish Bishop Hill colony in Henry County, Illinois. The money he got for his Missouri farm he contributed to Erik Janson's communistic society. Here he married a Swedish woman, belonging to Erik Janson's sect, but he soon got disgusted with the peculiar life in the Bishop Hill colony, and abandoned both his wife and the colony, stating that he had been robbed of all he possessed, and was sick in body and mind. He went back to his old Fox River settlement, and remained there till his health was restored.

At this point I am in the dark anent the chronology, but either in 1848 or 1849 he must have made his first visit to Texas. He went there evidently at the suggestion of John Nordboe, who had then lived for several years five miles south of Dallas. Kleng visited John Nordboe, made explorations in various parts of Texas, going as far west as within a few miles of the present Fort Worth, and then returned to LaSalle County, Illinois, in 1850, full of the Texas fever.

The rest of Kleng's life is easily told in the words of O. Canuteson's letter to me dated December 16, 1894: "In 1850 my father, with his family, came to my Uncle Halvor Knudson in Illinois. My mother had died from cholera between Chicago and Ottawa. In Ottawa we found Kleng Peerson just back from Texas, and on his advice and on his promise to be our guide, we concluded to go to Texas. He stayed with us the three years we lived in Dallas County, and when we moved to Bosque County, in 1854, he came with us, not as the leader then, but as a follower, being too old to undertake leadership any more. The last years of his life he had his home with O. Colwick (Kjølwig), but would of course go around among his neighbors, where he was always welcome and felt at home. He died December 16, 1865. One of his neighbors and I were with him the last hours of his life. I closed his eyes in the long sleep of death. He was buried in the Lutheran cemetery opposite the Norwegian church near Norse P. O. in Bosque County, and the Norwegians in Texas afterwards put a small stone monument on his grave with the following inscription written both in Norwegian and in English:

'CLENG PEERSON,  
The first Norwegian Immigrant  
to  
America.  
Came to America in 1821.  
Born in Norway, Europe, May 17, 1782,

Died in Texas, December 16, 1865.

Grateful countrymen in Texas erected this monument in his memory.

In Texas Kleng Pearson owned half a section of land and a few cows, and all this property he gave to O. Colwick, the latter agreeing to take care of him for the rest of his life.

I have stated that Kleng Pearson was a dissenter from the Church of Norway and that, although he did not personally join the society, he was in sympathy with the Quakers. While he admired the Quakers, he gradually drifted more and more away from all churches, and the cold fact is that before he died he had lost all faith in the Christian religion. On this point I am able to quote my friend, O. Canuteson, who lived in the same house with him for many years in Texas, who was with him in his dying hours, and who closed his eyes in death. Canuteson says: "I was intimately acquainted with Kleng Pearson from 1850 until his death in 1865. He was the most pronounced freethinker I have ever known. I remember his having an old Danish freethinking book translated from the German. He believed little or nothing of the Bible, especially of the supernatural part thereof. Whether he at any time had belonged to the Quakers I cannot say positively, but time and again I heard him talk about them as models in religious and temporal matters, and I heard him talk about getting assistance, aid, and comfort from Elias Tastad of Stavanger, Norway, he being their leader in that city."

Kleng Pearson was thoroughly unselfish in his character, and he devoted his life largely to the service of his countrymen. While he never, after he left Norway, had what might properly be called a home, he spent his time and scanty means in getting homes for others. Both in Kendall and in Illinois he secured land for his relatives and friends. By his trade as a carpenter he occasionally earned a few dollars, but these he gave freely to others who needed them. When he had nothing of his own to give, he would beg from the rich and give to the poor. So far as I can find out, he made most of his extensive journeys in this country on foot. On these expeditions he became, as we have seen, the founder of the settlement in Kendall, Orleans County, New York, in LaSalle County, Illinois, in Shelby County, Missouri, in Lee County, Iowa, and he finally guided one family to Dallas County, Texas, although John Nordboe, Johan Reinert Reierson, and others had been in Texas several years before Kleng came there.

Kleng Pearson's great services to Norwegian immigration deserve to be remembered and appreciated. With all his eccentricities and shortcomings, his countrymen will not fail to look upon him as a benefactor to his race and as an honest and benevolent man.

## Zachariah Poulson

*A Study of Danish-American Achievement in Philadelphia in the Eighteenth and Early Nineteenth Centuries, with Sidelights on the Ancestry of America's Oldest Daily Newspaper, The North American.*

By M. ATHERTON LEACH

The achievement of Danes in the United States is usually associated with the last half of the nineteenth century. Of the Northern peoples, the Swedes have carried off the honors in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries by their settlement on the shores of the Delaware and the important part played by their descendants in the up-building of Philadelphia and Wilmington. During the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries there were, however, Danes equally distinguished in the life of the Quaker City; notable among them were two generations of printers, the Zachariah Poulsons, father and son. Zachariah Poulson the elder was a Dane, born in the city of Copenhagen, June 16, 1737, and ended a useful life in Philadelphia in the year 1804. Zachariah Poulson the younger, a Danish-American, passed his life in Philadelphia, following his father's typographical profession, and in addition thereto was, for nearly forty years, proprietor, editor, and publisher of the oldest daily newspaper in America.

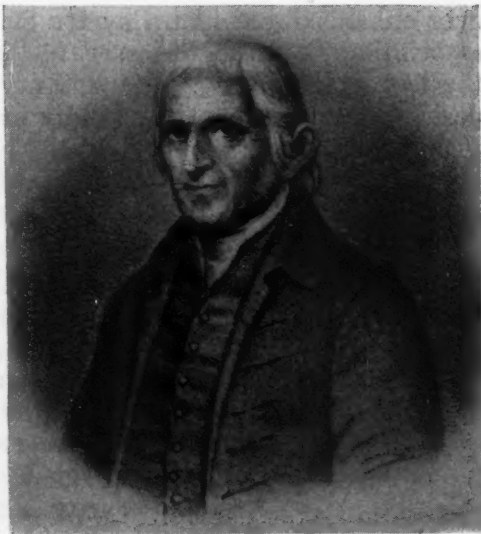
Zachariah Poulson the elder, the only son of his father, Nicholas Poulson, also a printer, accompanied him to the New World and arrived at Philadelphia, in 1749. For some years thereafter the father made his home in Germantown, and here the son, Zachariah Poulson, learned the gentle art of printing with the younger Christopher Saur.

It was in the atmosphere of this justly celebrated and prolific colonial printing-house of the Saur—whose motto was: "To the Glory of God and for the Good of Mankind"—that Zachariah Poulson, the young Dane, caught his early vision of Philadelphia, in which, upon reaching manhood, he made his home and there followed his art, possibly with Franklin and Hall, certainly with Hall and Sellers, James Humphreys, and Joseph Cruikshank, all notable for the quality and quantity of their literary productions.

Just when he came under the religious influence of the Moravians—non-combative like the Friends—is not clear, probably before his advent in Philadelphia. It may be that his father, Nicholas Poulson, or Paulson, as he sometimes wrote his name, who, shortly after the decease of his wife, left Denmark on account of his religious principles, was one of the people known as the *Unitas Fratrum*, or United Brethren. Certain it is that the son was long an eminent and highly esteemed member of the Brethren's Congregation in Philadelphia, one of the



centers of Moravian activity in the New World, and from 1801 until his death, acted as one of its "chapel servants." These chapel servants combined the duties of volunteer vergers with that of the *maître de chappelle* of a cathedral. Two were usually at service every Sunday and on holy days. One sat on the wall bench behind the men's door for the purpose of waiting on strangers, and also to watch the boys who might attempt to go into the gallery. The other sat on the wall bench at the door opening into the church from the parsonage for the purpose of waiting upon the minister, as well as to watch



ZACHARIAH POULSON THE ELDER  
(From a Lithograph by Herlin & Hensel)

the occasional restive or tittering youth, as he ranged with his eye in front of the pulpit. Somewhere there is a portrait of this good Dane, a copy of which was used as an illustration by Ritter in his History of the Moravian Church of Philadelphia. In this his attire was light drab plainly cut coat and breeches after the manner of Friends. "His countenance," says Ritter, "on which nature had shed its bounty was



THE ORIGINAL MORAVIAN CHURCH OF 1742, WHERE POULSON WORSHIPPED. IT STOOD ON THE CORNER OF MORAVIAN ALLEY (NOW BREAD STREET) AND RACE STREET, PHILADELPHIA



ever enhanced and lit up by the evidence of a happy train of mental association." As chapel servant "his commands were few, but none the less well known. The serenity of his countenance conveyed his desires in the calm of his kindly smile." In the God's Acre of this place of worship, bounded by the city's trade and commerce, besides the hallowed dust of its elders and founders, his earthly remains were deposited. Here, still to be deciphered, is the ledger stone of his grave inscribed:

"BENEATH THIS STONE  
ARE DEPOSITED  
THE REMAINS OF  
ZACHARIAH POULSON, PRINTER.  
HE WAS BORN IN COPENHAGEN, DENMARK  
ON THE SIXTEENTH OF JUNE, 1737  
AND EMIGRATED WITH HIS FATHER  
IN THE YEAR 1749  
FROM THENCE TO PHILADELPHIA  
WHERE HE RESIDED  
MORE THAN HALF A CENTURY  
ON THE FOURTEENTH OF JANUARY, 1804  
IN THE 67TH OF HIS AGE  
HE DEPARTED THIS LIFE  
WITH THAT PEACE OF MIND  
WHICH THE WORLD  
CAN NEITHER GIVE NOR TAKE AWAY."

The notice of his death in his son's paper of the sixteenth instant reads:

"Died on Saturday morning, the fourteenth instant, in the sixty-seventh year of his age, after a severe illness of twenty days, *Mr. Zachariah Poulson*, Printer, Father of the Editor of the *American Daily Advertiser*. He was a native of Copenhagen, the metropolis of Denmark, and emigrated with his father, from thence to this city in the year 1749, where he has since generally resided, and has always been esteemed, by those who knew him, for his integrity, for the sincerity and ardor of his friendship, and for his amiable and inoffensive deportment. He bore his afflictions without a murmur, and departed with that resignation and humble confidence which is inspired by religion and a consciousness of a well spent life. On the following day his remains were borne to the cemetery of the Moravian Church by respectable Brethren of the typographic art, and interred in the presence of a considerable number of his Friends."

Zachariah Poulson the younger, editor, publisher, and proprietor of Poulson's *American Daily Advertiser*, son of Zachariah the elder, was born in Philadelphia, September 5, 1761, and died at his residence,

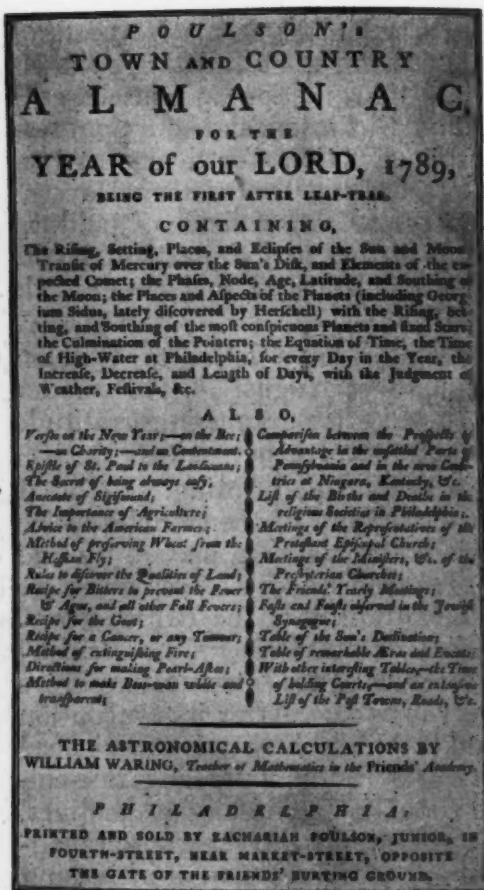
106 Chestnut Street, July 31, 1844. During the formative years of his life Pennsylvania was the battle ground of the conflicting opinions on Independence. Nowhere else was the question so acutely canvassed. Here were Franklin, Paine, and Dickinson, and here Congress assembled. Here too, looking in other directions for divergent reasons, were the Quakers, the Germans, and the Proprietary Government. The press of Philadelphia reproduced every shade of political difference, and the journeyman printer of that period, particularly he whose religious principles were opposed to bloodshed, underwent trials not always appreciated.

Some of these trials are well detailed in a letter to William Rawle, Esq., of Philadelphia, bearing date of August 13, 1791, under the hand of Zachariah Poulson, Jr., who, after expressing gratitude for essential service received from Mr. Rawle, further writes:

"James Humphreys was to have taught me printing. Before I was bound he was necessitated to fly on account of the troubles which then agitated our country. After his materials were packed up and secreted, I went with my Father to Hall and Seller's office, where we remained until the first rumour of the approach of the British army. We then worked with Joseph Crukshank until they [the British] took possession of the city, when we returned to James Humphreys and remained with him until it was evacuated. After its evacuation we went again to Joseph Crukshank. While here we experienced all the hardships which malicious neighbors and unfeeling fine-collectors could occasion. As my Father could not, from religious motives, pay militia fines, his property was sacrificed in the most wanton manner. As I was apprehensive that I would be the occasion of increasing difficulties if I remained here (being about the age of seventeen) I begged, and at length got, my Parents' permission to endeavor to get into New York . . . ."

At the ebb-tide of his career, with no advice save that of his heart, Mr. Poulson married at Old Swedes Church (Gloria Dei), April 23, 1780, Susanna Knorr of Philadelphia, a sister of Mrs. Christopher Saur. Mrs. Poulson died January 25, 1830, and is buried with her husband and several of their children in the Upper Germantown burying-ground.

From 1778 the vicissitudes of the young printer, aggravated by his early marriage, were many. Fortune continued to withhold her largess until 1785, when, as the newly elected librarian—an office in which he was preceded by Benjamin Franklin and Francis Hopkinson, signers of the Declaration of Independence—his association with the Philadelphia Library Company began. With this institution he was to continue twenty-one years as librarian, six years as treasurer, and thirty-two as director, in all a service of nearly fifty-nine years.



TITLE PAGE OF "POULSON'S ALMANAC" FOR 1789

His portrait, painted for the Library Company in the year preceding his death by the master hand of Sully, hangs upon its walls, from which his benevolent features still radiate a benediction upon all who pass beneath. (See cover of this REVIEW.)

In 1788 he opened a printing office and for many years was successively elected State printer for the Senate of Pennsylvania. During the following year he printed, in folio, the Minutes of the Convention which was appointed to amend and revise the Constitution of the Commonwealth. Among the large number of valuable works published by him the most important are: *Poulson's Town and Country Almanacs*, 1789-1807; *A Catalogue of the Books Belonging to the Library Company of Philadelphia*, to which is prefixed a short account of that institution, with the charter, laws and regulations, 1789; *Proud's History of Pennsylvania*,

1797-98; *The American Tutor's Assistant*, of which there were numerous editions; the curious mystical works of William Gerar de Brahm, in one octavo volume for the author, and, from time to time, 1794 to 1801, the *Journals of the General Conventions of Delegates from the Abolition Societies of the United States*. A complete list of his publications would admirably illustrate the history of printing in that period of Philadelphia's literary life.

On October 1, 1800, Mr. Poulson commenced the arduous duties incident to the conduct of a daily paper, having purchased for ten thousand dollars the printing office and "good will" of Claypoole's *American Daily Advertiser*, which organ had begun newspaper life as *The Pennsylvania Packet*, in 1771. *The Daily Advertiser* absorbed the *Packet* and became on September 21, 1784, the first daily newspaper published in America. Under Poulson's management the

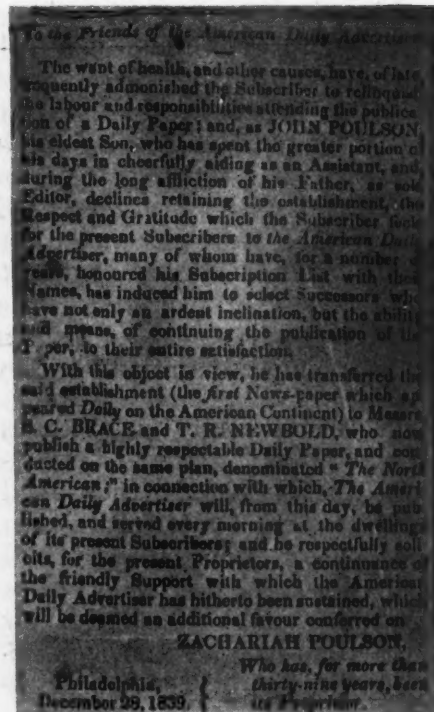
*Advertiser* was prosperous and profitable. It was essentially an *advertiser*, averaging about twenty-two columns of advertisements to six columns of reading matter, which proportion was substantially retained until the last number. Not brilliant perhaps—newspapers did not necessarily aim at brilliancy in those days—the *Advertiser's* hold on public esteem is well outlined by Watson, in his "Annals of Philadelphia:"

"It is more properly municipal and domestic than any other [newspaper] which we know. It seems composed to suit the family-hearth and fireside comforts of good and sober citizens, never flaunting in the gaudy glare of party allurements; never stained with the ribaldry and virulence of party recrimination. It is patriarchal, looking alike to the wants and benefits of *all* our citizens as common children of the same city family. It is, in short, a paper like the good old times from which it has descended, and like the people of the former days—its recent most numerous readers—it carries with it something grave, discriminating, useful, and considerate."

A Whig journal, the *Advertiser*, in its last number, flew the flag of Harrison and Tyler for president and vice-president of the United States. Mr. Poulson was then seventy-eight years of age and had been for some time feeble in health. It was therefore not altogether unexpected when, on *December 28, 1839*, he bade farewell to journalism in these simple words:

*"To the Friends of the American Daily Advertiser:*

The want of health and other causes have, of late, frequently admonished the subscriber to relinquish the labors and responsibilities attending the publication of a daily paper; and as John Poulson, his eldest son, who spent the greater portion of his days in cheerfully aiding as an assistant, and, during the long affliction of his father as sole editor, declined retaining the establishment, the respect and gratitude which the subscriber feels for the present subscribers to the *American Daily*



ZACHARIAH POULSON'S VALEDICTORY  
WHEN HIS "ADVERTISER" WAS TAKEN  
OVER BY THE "NORTH AMERICAN"



*Advertiser*, many of whom have for a number of years honored his subscription-list with their names, has induced him to select successors who have not only an ardent inclination but the ability and means of continuing the publication of the paper to their entire satisfaction.

"With this object in view, he has transferred the said establishment (the first newspaper which appeared daily on the American continent) to Messrs. S. C. Brace and T. R. Newbold, who now publish a highly respectable daily paper, and conducted on the same plan, denominated the *North American*, in connection with which the said *American Daily Advertiser* will from this day be published.

"ZACHARIAH POULSON,  
who for more than thirty-nine years has been its proprietor."

In the next two decades *The North American*—the oldest daily in America—had changes and counter-changes in its financial management and editorial staff, and at the close of that period entered on a new tide of prosperity. In connection with its owners and editorial corps of 1847-1854, it is interesting to American-Scandinavians to recall that not the least in this really brilliant group was Robert Montgomery Bird, M. D., a descendant of several of the early Swedes who settled on the Delaware, near what is now the city of Wilmington, before the first coming of William Penn, the great Quaker proprietary. Dr. Bird's *Nick of the Woods*, a Kentucky story, is considered the equal of Cooper's *Leatherstocking Tales*, while his dramas *Oraloosa*, *The Gladiator*, and

*The Broker of Bogota* were three of Edwin Forrest's "prize plays."

Aside from being an attentive librarian and an editor in whom there was no guile, Mr. Poulson did much toward the advancement of the public weal. For some years one of the managers of the Pennsylvania hospital, a founder and, at the time of his decease, the president



THE "FIRE MARK" OR BADGE OF THE PHILADELPHIA CONTRIBUTORSHIP, THE FIRST FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY IN THE UNITED STATES. THE CUSTOM, LONG FALLEN INTO DISUSE, OF PLACING SUCH BADGES ON INSURED HOUSES, HAS BEEN LATELY REVIVED. THE ABOVE MARK IS FROM 1752



of the Philadelphia Society for Alleviating the Miseries of Public Prisons, he was equally interested in the Society for Promoting the Abolition of Slavery, and in the Philadelphia Contributionship for the Insurance of Houses from Loss by Fire—the first Fire Insurance Company in America, whose house-mark of four hands clasped at the wrist is yet to be seen on the fronts of many buildings in the old portions of the city. Of this latter corporation he had been a director thirty-five years and from 1836 the senior member of its Board.

A contemporary editor dwelling at length upon the life and work of Mr. Poulson said in part:

"He has passed through a life protracted to an unusual length, entirely free from all censure and reproach. Upon his character the slightest stain has never rested; and though for many years the editor and proprietor of a widely circulated journal, and that during the most exciting periods, he never made an enemy or lost a friend. . . ."

To this Simpson, in his *Lives of Eminent Philadelphians*, added:

"Few men have ever lived in our community who so entirely possessed, and deservedly, yet unostentatiously, acquired the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens, as did Zachariah Poulson."

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## Joy in the Wood

By KATHERINE ADAMS

*We made a driftwood fire  
You and I,  
Where forest birds were dreaming,  
And a bad brown owl was scheming,  
As a baby star was gleaming  
Soft and shy.*

*The grey mist smoke grew gold,  
Gold and blue;  
And the thrilling shadows creeping,  
Where the jeweled flames were leaping  
Brought the dreams of wood birds sleeping  
Close to you.*

*We heard a night lark call  
Far and clear,  
And the answer's deep confessing,  
Soothed by silence's sweet caressing,  
Brought the wonder of God's blessing  
Very near.*

# Father and Son

By GUNNAR GUNNARSSON

*Translated from the Danish by MINNA WRESCHNER*

They lived a short distance from the small fishing village, father and son. They both bore the same name: Snjolfur. Old Snjolfur and Young Snjolfur they were generally called. But they themselves simply called each other Snjolfur. That was a habit of theirs; and as they bore the same name, they felt still closer when they addressed each other by that name. Old Snjolfur was fifty odd years old, and Young Snjolfur was only just twelve years of age.

The two were always together, hardly ever leaving each other for a moment. It had been this way as far back as Young Snjolfur could recollect. Old Snjolfur remembered well that until about thirteen years ago he owned a large farm, about four miles inland, and had a good wife and three healthy children. But then misfortune overtook him.

Plague broke out among his cattle, and in a very short time they all died. Not long afterward his children contracted the whooping cough, and all three died, with such brief intervals between that they were all buried in one grave.

These misfortunes put Old Snjolfur into debt, so that in order to pay every one his dues he had to sell his farm. He then bought the small headland outside the fishing village, built with his own hands from stone and sod a hut consisting of two small rooms, and without assistance he erected a fishing shed. This left him just enough money to buy a small second-hand boat.

A hard and miserable existence now commenced for Snjolfur and his wife. To be sure, they had always been accustomed to work, but they had never known poverty or continual worry about their daily bread. Nearly every day Snjolfur had to fetch their food from the deep sea, and not unfrequently the sea proved a stingy giver. Many a night they had to go to bed hungry, and as for clothing, there was hardly anything left.

During the summer Snjolfur's wife helped at the village store, drying fish; but she could only work when the weather was fine, and her meagre wages did not go far. So in order that her husband should not suffer any want she would deny herself and often go hungry, but Snjolfur did not know that. The result was that it grew more and more difficult for her to stand the work. She lived just long enough to give birth to another baby and decide that his name should be Snjolfur—then her strength gave way, and a few days



ICELANDIC PEASANT TYPES SELECTED BY THE AUTHOR TO ILLUSTRATE THIS STORY

after the child was born she died. Since then father and son were alone on the headland.

Young Snjolfur had a faint recollection of a miserable time spent alone in the hut, passed in tears and despair. For there was no one to look after him during the years he was too small to go to sea with his father. Before Old Snjolfur went out in the morning he had to tie the child to the bed-post or else remove everything that the boy might hurt himself with. For necessity compelled him to go out fishing to procure their meagre food.

Young Snjolfur had a more distinct recollection of other days, spent on the sea, filled with sunshine and happiness. He recalled how he sat in the stern of the boat, while Old Snjolfur pulled up from the great depth the shiny fish, the boat rocking so softly that he almost went to sleep. But even among these happy memories there were others, of gray and dreary days, when the sky seemed to weep, and when Old Snjolfur had to go out alone.

After a time, however, Young Snjolfur grew so big and strong

that he could go with his father in all kinds of weather; and since that time the two had been always together. If one woke up during the night, immediately the other awakened; and if the one was restless during the night, the other was restless also.

Now, one might think that the two had so much to speak about that this perhaps was the reason they were inseparable. But that was not the case. They knew each other so well and had such unlimited faith in each other that it was not necessary for them to talk. Some days they would exchange only a few words, and on such days they seemed to feel most content in each other's company: it was enough for them to look at each other, and there was mutual understanding.

Among the few words exchanged between them there was a sentence that was repeated over and over. Old Snjolfur would say to Young Snjolfur, often without any cause: "Always pay everybody his dues, don't owe anybody anything, and God will take care of the rest."

Consequently the two would rather go hungry than get anything in the store without the money to pay for it. All their neighbors had charge accounts at the village store, and paid only after it was long overdue—in fact they never paid all they owed; but the two on the headland had never owed any one a cent, at least not so far back as Young Snjolfur remembered. They would rather make their clothes out of old bags and wear them till they were in tatters. Before Young Snjolfur was born, Old Snjolfur, like everybody else, had an account at the store, but that was something Young Snjolfur knew nothing about.

During the summer they saved all they possibly could for the winter when there was no fishing, the ice hindering all navigation. They dried and salted fish for their winter food, selling some of it to the store-keeper to get cash with which to buy merchandise. Every winter they used up all they had, and at times it was difficult to make it last until they could go out fishing again in the spring. Even if they went out in their boat every day the weather permitted, it would not bring them sufficient food. Quite frequently they would return from their trip empty-handed, or they would bring home a few tiny fish in the bottom of the boat. Yet they never complained; that did not even occur to them. They were always even-tempered. Their frequent disappointments as well as their successes were accepted with like calmness, by both father and son. At least they did not owe anybody anything; and they always sought consolation in the hope that, if not to-day, then to-morrow, no doubt, God would send them plenty—or perhaps the following day. Toward spring they would grow pale and restless, and would spend many wakeful nights.



One spring, after a very severe winter—it was still cold and raw—misfortune again overtook Old Snjolfur. Early one morning a snowslide carried the hut away and buried father and son underneath. In some way Young Snjolfur succeeded in getting out from under the snow, but as he realized that it was hopeless for him alone to try to rescue Old Snjolfur, he immediately summoned help from the village. However, when the help came it was too late, for when they finally succeeded in finding Old Snjolfur he was suffocated.

The body was taken out and placed on a flat stone close to the rock. It was arranged later in the day to fetch a sleigh and in that way take the deceased to the village. After the body of his father had been laid out in this manner, Young Snjolfur stood by, stroking Old Snjolfur's gray hair, which was matted with snow. He murmured something in a low voice, but nobody could hear what he said. Yet he did not cry. The folks thought he was an odd youngster not to shed a tear, and they did not quite like him. That was too cold-blooded, they all agreed, especially as he was a mere child.

This perhaps was the reason why nobody took an interest in him. The people went back to the village to get a sleigh and have their luncheon, while the boy stayed alone on the headland.

The hut had been carried away from its original site and was entirely demolished. Here and there a beam could be seen sticking up out of the snow, and a few tools were found half buried under the glittering masses. Young Snjolfur went down to the beach to look for the boat. When he saw the small craft all broken up, the pieces floating about in the water, a painful expression appeared on his face, but he uttered no sound. He went over and sat down on the stone at the head of the corpse.

"This looks bad," he thought. "Had only the boat been whole, I could at least have sold it. For the funeral will cost a lot of money." He knew that, for Old Snjolfur had often said that one should always put enough aside for a decent funeral. To be buried at the cost of the parish was a disgrace. If one could only provide for an honorable burial, one might be satisfied—after all, such was life; and he had also told the boy that they could both die in peace at any moment, for they had the hut, the headland, the boat, and their tools, which would amply cover their funeral expenses. And now everything had been destroyed! There was still the land, but he did not see how he could ever get anything out of that. That would hardly bring in much, barren and desolate as it lay.

Up to this moment he had entirely forgotten that he himself had nothing to eat, and therefore probably would die from hunger. He felt most inclined to go down to the beach and jump in. But then both he and Old Snjolfur would have to be buried at the cost of



the parish. As things were, he felt that he alone was now responsible for both of them, and he did not dare assume the responsibility that they should both lie with dishonor in their grave.

Young Snjolfur had never in his life encountered such difficult problems. His head positively ached from all this thinking, and he was just on the point of giving up in despair.

Then, all of a sudden, it dawned on him that he had no place to sleep that night, and it was too cold to sleep out. After pondering some time over this new problem, he began gathering up the beams, which he piled up against the hillside, in a slanting position, over the body of Old Snjolfur; then he covered it over with the old sail from the boat and shoveled snow on the top so as to make it warm inside. It was some comfort to know that he would probably be allowed to keep Old Snjolfur for a few days, but he could hardly expect to have him more than a week.

After this was accomplished, he sat down within the narrow tent. He felt both tired and hungry, and was very near falling asleep; but again he was roused by the problem of how to pay the funeral expenses, and this thought immediately made him wide awake. Suddenly an inspiration came to him—followed shortly by another flash. Instantly all his weariness disappeared. In a second he was outside the tent, on his way to the village.

He made straight for the village store. He did not even look at the houses as he passed, nor did he notice that people watched him in an unfriendly way. Such an ungrateful child, they commented, not to shed a tear for his own father.

When he reached the store, he walked right in and asked the clerk in a grown-up manner if he could speak to the store-keeper. The clerk looked him over suspiciously, crossed the floor, and knocked at the door of the office. Shortly afterwards the store-keeper came out, looked intently at Young Snjolfur, and asked him to step inside.

Young Snjolfur put his cap on the counter and followed the man. "Well, my boy, what is your errand?" he asked.

Young Snjolfur almost lost his courage, but he braced himself up and said in a business-like tone: "You know, no doubt, that our landing-place is better than the one you have?"

The store-keeper suppressed a smile at the calmness of the boy and answered, likewise in a business-like manner: "So I have been told."

"Now, suppose I gave you permission to use our landing-place this coming summer," continued Young Snjolfur, "how much would you pay me?"

"Would it not be better that I bought the place from you?" asked the store-keeper, trying to hide his amusement.

"No," answered the boy, "for in that case I should have no place to live."

"But you cannot stay there anyhow," said the man.

"I intend building a hut this summer, and until then I can stay in a tent I have just put up. I have lost Old Snjolfur and the boat, so that I cannot go out fishing this summer. I therefore thought I would rent the landing-place to you for the summer, if you will take it and pay me for it. From our place your men can go out in all kinds of weather. Don't you remember last summer, how often they had to stay home while we rowed out? Old Snjolfur told me it was because your landing-place was inferior to ours."

"How much do you want in rent for the summer?" the store-keeper inquired.

"Only so much that I can get a coffin for Old Snjolfur and give him a decent burial without having the parish pay for it."

The store-keeper got up and offered the boy his hand.

"That is a bargain," he said. "I shall provide the coffin and look after all. You need not worry."

The store-keeper walked toward the door to let the boy out, but Young Snjolfur hesitated. He had not finished his errand yet.

"When do you expect the ship in with new goods this spring?" he asked in his former calm tone.

"I expect it in the day after to-morrow, or the next day," replied the store-keeper. He looked at the little fellow with an expression as if he was trying to solve a problem. He was at a loss to understand what the boy was driving at.

"Don't you need another boy in the store? Like last summer?" inquired Young Snjolfur, looking straight at the man.

"Yes, but I should prefer a boy who is confirmed,\*" said the man, who could not help smiling.

"Will you come outside for a moment?" said Young Snjolfur. He almost seemed prepared for this answer.

The store-keeper shook his head and with a smile followed the boy outside, through the store.

Without a word Young Snjolfur went over to a big stone, took off his woolen mittens, bent down, and lifted the stone. Then he dropped it and, turning to the store-keeper, said: "The boy you had last year couldn't do that; I saw him try it several times."

The man smiled: "If you are as strong as that, I suppose you might do, even if you are not confirmed."

"And you will give me food and the same wages as the other boy had?" he inquired.

\*According to Danish Law all children at the age of 15 years must be confirmed in the church to which they belong.

"I will," said the store-keeper.

"That is good. Then I shall not have to take charity," said Young Snjolfur as though freed from a burden. "If I can only earn my food and clothes, I shan't have to live on the parish," he added by way of explaining.

Then he picked up his cap and offered the store-keeper his hand, as he had seen Old Snjolfur do.

"Good-bye," he said, "till the day after to-morrow."

"Come inside for a moment," said the store-keeper.

He walked ahead, opened the door to the kitchen, where he let the boy in, and said to the cook: "Give this little fellow something to eat."

But Young Snjolfur shook his head determinedly.

"Are you not hungry?" inquired the store-keeper.

"Yes," answered the boy. His voice trembled, the delicious smell from the kitchen had increased his hunger. Yet he straightened himself up: "But that would be charity, and that I cannot accept."

The store-keeper grew pensive. He went over to the boy, patted him on the head, and gave the cook a sign that she should bring in some food. Then he led the boy into the dining-room.

"No doubt you have seen your father, when he had guests, treat them to a drink, or perhaps a cup of coffee?"

"Yes," replied Young Snjolfur.

"Well, there you are! We must treat our guests, and if they will not accept, we are not friends any longer. So you see, you must eat with me. For you have paid me a visit, and we have arranged important matters, and if you will not be my guest, they cannot go through."

"Then I suppose I must," said the boy with a sigh.

For a moment he sat thoughtful, then he added quietly: "Always pay everybody his dues, never owe anybody anything, then God will take care of the rest."

"Those are true words," said the store-keeper, and out came his handkerchief, for he laughed and cried at the same time. "It is born in him," he murmured to himself. Aloud he said, patting Young Snjolfur on the head: "God bless you, my lad."

Young Snjolfur noticed with surprise the man's emotion. For a while he watched him in silence, then he said: "Old Snjolfur never cried." After a moment he added: "I never cried myself, not since I was a small child. I wanted to when I saw Old Snjolfur was dead, but I was afraid he might not have liked it, and so I did not cry."

The next moment Young Snjolfur lay sobbing in the store-keeper's arms.

## John Hanson, American Patriot

By GEORGE H. RYDEN AND ADOLPH B. BENSON

The French historian Montesquieu, in his epoch-making *L'Esprit des Lois*, published in 1748, designates Scandinavia as the "fountain of European liberty." The spirit of freedom is an inherent trait among all descendants of the old Norsemen and is so recognized both at home and abroad. That they should take an interest in the American Revolution is, therefore, only natural. Sweden was the first neutral country to offer its friendship and to conclude a treaty with the United States, unsolicited, as recently told in the REVIEW; and Swedish writers of ability like Bengt Lidner and Wallin and the Swedish Finn Franzén found attractive material in various phases of the American struggle for independence. A number of Swedish officers, like Counts Stedingk, von Fersen, and the Swedish Finn von Sprengporten volunteered in the French army, fought in our Revolutionary War, and did such important military services as to receive the Cincinnati Order from General Washington. It is also said that an attempt was made to raise a separate unit of Swedish volunteers for the Colonial forces. That Judge John Morton, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, was of Swedish descent need only be mentioned here.

In our own day the Swedish interest in the American Revolution is exemplified in a novel by Mathilda Malling, *Daybreak*, which appeared eighteen years ago, and is localized at the dawn of American independence among the descendants of the first Swedish settlers of Delaware. Here it is the pride of the author to recall that members of her own race did something to help establish American freedom, and that they were resolved not to "yield an inch" from what they considered right. No tyranny in any form was tolerated.

A noted historical example of this inborn love of justice and liberty on the Colonial soil of America is found in the grandson of a Swedish immigrant, the Honorable John Hanson, patriot, and one time president of the Continental Congress.

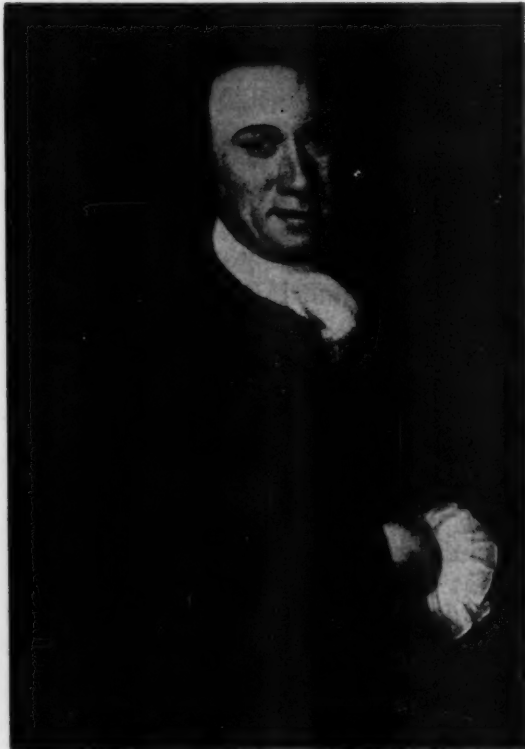
There were a great number of Hanson families in the American Colonies, especially in Delaware and Maryland, and a large proportion of them became very prominent in public affairs. They descended from "four young Hansons, wards of the Queen" (Chris-

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This article was suggested by a number of discussions on the subject, three years ago, with Mr. George H. Ryden, formerly professor of history in Bethany College, Kansas. Originally, it was the intention of Mr. Ryden to write this account for the Historical Number, but his prolonged absence in Europe has made this impossible, and I have taken the responsibility to compile a brief substitute. Neither Mr. Ryden's notes, bibliography, nor photographs have been available to the writer, but a few quotations and suggestions have been taken from a critical letter by him on John Hanson, now in the possession of the Editor of the REVIEW. All facts have been verified whenever possible.—ADOLPH B. BENSON.



tina), who came to Delaware in January, 1643, with Lieutenant-Colonel John Printz, the Governor of New Sweden. John Hanson, the youngest of the four, generally called "Colonel," finally moved to Charles County, Maryland, "where he filled the responsible and important office of Justice in the year 1694 and after. He became



PORTRAIT OF JOHN HANSON, PAINTED BY THE SWEDISH-AMERICAN ARTIST, HESSELIUS

(Reproduced by permission of the author from "Side-lights on Maryland History," by Hester Dorsey Richardson)

the progenitor of a large and distinguished family," with enviable military and legislative records. His son, Samuel—if I understand the genealogy correctly, who married Elizabeth Story, "was one of the most important men of his community, and as such represented Charles County in the Lower House for several years. He died in 1740, leaving a numerous family."

Mrs. Hester Dorsey Richardson, in *Side-Lights on Maryland History*, the authority for the above quotation, goes on to say: "John Hanson, the grandson of Colonel Hanson, the immigrant, was one of the most notable of our Colonial and Revolutionary patriots. Born in Charles County in the first quarter of the eighteenth century (1715), he was chosen when a young man as a member of the Assembly, where he at once made his ability felt. In the year

1773 he removed to Frederick County, the bar of which became famous for its brilliant galaxy of legal lights. He was a signer of the Non-Importation Act (1769), and was elected chairman of the committee to stop importations from Great Britain and the West Indies until the relief of Boston," which had been blockaded as a result of the Boston Tea Party. "As chairman of the Committee on Observation he rendered important service to Frederick County. Later he became President of the Continental Congress, in which capacity he welcomed General Washington upon his return to Philadelphia after the surrender of Cornwallis. He was 'The President of the United States in

Congress Assembled.' Indeed, the services of this Marylander," Mrs. Richardson continues, "whose memory has been perpetuated in the national capitol, would fill a volume by themselves."

It seems that John Hanson, like the sons of many other well-to-do Colonial families, was educated in England. Upon his return he represented his native county in the House of Delegates in almost every session for twenty years, and later served in the same capacity for Frederick County. He was also elected treasurer of the latter county, and in 1775 was commissioned by the Maryland Convention to establish a gun-lock factory for protection of the Province. On October 9, 1776, he was made member of a commission empowered to appoint officers, reorganize troops, and encourage enlistment of the Maryland militia or of the regular soldiers whose terms of service in the Continental Army were expiring. Hanson always took an active part in all agitation against the arbitrary legislation of the British Parliament, and as a recognized leader held positions on various important patriotic committees. In addition to those mentioned we may note especially the Provincial Committee of Correspondence, a kind of secret service among the Colonists, and the Committee for building a military jail or barracks at Frederick, where a large number of prisoners of war were confined. It was during his chairmanship of the Committee of Observation that the formidable Tory conspiracy of Lord Dunmore and White Eyes, an Indian chief, was discovered and frustrated.

John Hanson, however, with a sturdy sense of honesty and justice, was always ready to give credit and honor where credit and honor were due, even toward Englishmen. In November, 1766, the Maryland House of Delegates, "taking into their most serious consideration the noble and spirited conduct of the Right Honorable Wm. Pitt, now Earl of Chatham"—and others active "in defending and supporting the rights and liberties of their fellow subjects in general, decreed that a marble statue of Chatham be erected in the city of Annapolis." Hanson was among those who brought in this bill, which passed in the Lower House, though rejected in the Upper.

On December 22, 1779, Hanson was appointed by the Maryland House of Delegates a representative to the Continental Congress, and on June 14, 1780, according to the record in the *Journals of Congress*, attended and produced his credentials for the first time. A second appointment, for the year 1781, was made at Annapolis on the third of February, and on Washington's Birthday, 1781, Hanson took his seat again, his credentials in connection with those of Daniel Carroll and two other delegates having been presented by the former on February 12. On November 28, 1781, Hanson was appointed as a delegate for the third time, and on December 4

following he and Daniel Carroll produced credentials for themselves and two others. Hanson was member of Congress until his death, November 22, 1783.

Perhaps the most influential act of Hanson from a historical, constitutional viewpoint was the signing by him and Daniel Carroll of the Articles of Confederation, March 1, 1781, and as Maryland was the last to sign the Articles, they immediately went into effect. The ratification of the Articles had been held up by the great contest over western lands, until Maryland won out, a contest in which John Hanson had taken a prominent part both in Maryland and in Congress, and which had lasted about three years. Participation in this contest was one of the big things in Hanson's career. The signing of the Articles whereby they became operative was the culmination. The fact that the states having western claims were obliged at Maryland's insistence to cede them to the United States made possible the future organization of the Northwest and Southwest territories and finally the admission of Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana, Illinois, Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi on an equal footing with the thirteen original states.



THE HANSON COAT-OF-ARMS  
(Reproduced by permission of the author  
from "Side-Lights on Maryland History," by Hester Dorsey Richardson)

On November 5, 1781, Hanson was chosen "President of Congress of the United States," an honor which he held for one year and whose duties he discharged with such fidelity as to receive the formal thanks of Congress. Possibly because Hanson was elected to the office the same year as the Articles of Confederation went into effect, it has become a popular notion to consider him as the First President of the United States under the new form of government. This is an error. The *Journals of Congress* show that John Hanson was technically the third to

be elected and the third to serve as president, during the year 1781, though the matter of chronology is of comparatively little significance.

The President was the presiding officer of Congress and signed all acts, commissions, proclamations, and letters issued by or under the authority of that body. He spoke in behalf of Congress to visitors of the same, such as foreign diplomats and delegations, and put questions to vote by the Congress. He was in some instances con-

sidered the most prominent man during the war, Washington, of course, excepted, but he was not the executive head of the United States in the modern sense, for the central power was vested solely in the Congress itself.

During his term of office as president it became Mr. Hanson's



ALEXANDER CONTEE HANSON

(Reproduced by permission of the author from "Side-Lights on Maryland History," by Hester Dorsey Richardson)

duty to sign a letter, dated November 29, 1781, to the King of France, and to sign a proclamation to the States on December 17. We may assume, however, that the greatest and most glorious event in Hanson's career was to express the official felicitations to Washington upon his first visit to Congress, November 28, 1781, shortly after the surrender of the British commander at Yorktown. The speech of welcome and the reply, both very brief, are printed in the *Journals of Congress* for that date.

Among the notable Hansons in public life, it may be well to mention in this connection the Honorable

Alexander Contee Hanson, Chancellor of Maryland, and son of the President, who was "assistant private secretary to General Washington in his young manhood.

There is no doubt that President Hanson was an efficient and vigilant patriot, cultured and reliable. He was constantly entrusted with offices of confidence and responsibility. The *Maryland Archives* teem with references to his activities. Of distinguished men of Frederick County "none has been more conspicuous than John Hanson, president of the Continental Congress in the fall of 1781," declares J. Thomas Scharf in *History of Western Maryland*. "Mr. Hanson was not only a man of conspicuous ability," Mr. Scharf continues, "but possessed great firmness and energy of character, and probably contributed more than any other individual to vivify and strengthen the Revolutionary cause in western Maryland." In other words, he was a patriot of sterling qualities, whose name, conviction, sound judgment, force, and leadership spelled American independence.





## John Ericsson

By CARL SNOILSKY

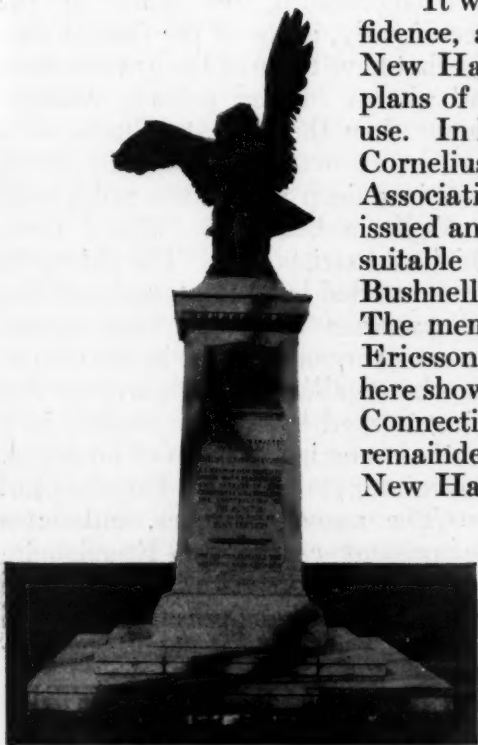
Translated from the Swedish by CHARLES WHARTON STORK

*He was a seed the breezes took  
And carried to the west.  
In fertile earth his root was struck,  
He flourished with the best.*

*Yet say not, Sweden, with chagrin:  
"His fruit belonged to me."  
For still you feel yourself akin  
To all that's great and free.*

*In giving him you lent your might  
To shatter slavery's band  
And rear a giant forge of light  
Upon the new world's strand.*

## The Bushnell-Ericsson Monument, New Haven



THE BUSHNELL-ERICSSON MONUMENT

It was chiefly through the insight, confidence, and active devotion of prominent New Haven citizens that John Ericsson's plans of the *Monitor* were put to practical use. In honor of the foremost of these, the Cornelius S. Bushnell National Memorial Association was founded, which in 1899 issued an appeal for subscriptions toward a suitable monument commemorating Mr. Bushnell's energetic and timely patriotism. The memorial, in reality a Bushnell-and-Ericsson monument, as the reproduction here shows, was to cost \$25,000; the State of Connecticut appropriated \$5,000, and the remainder was contributed by the City of New Haven and private individuals. The

memorial, the work of Herbert Adams, a sculptor of New York, was erected in Monitor Park, New Haven, and dedicated on May 30, 1906. It was unveiled with impressive ceremonies, in the presence of notable city and state dignitaries, by the youngest male descendant, a grandson of C.

S. Bushnell and son of Ericsson Bushnell who was named after the Swedish inventor.

The New Haven *Palladium* of May 31, 1906, contains a full account of the dedication exercises and addresses. Whereas the emphasis in all speeches is, of course, placed on Mr. Bushnell, Ericsson receives a goodly share of the glory, and in a special article, printed in the same number, J. Rice Winchell pays this tribute to the foreign-born designer: "John Ericsson, though born in Sweden, where his ashes repose, belonged to America and the world. Sweden is justly proud of him, but America owes him a debt of gratitude which can never be fully paid. To the United States, John Ericsson stands almost in the sacred relation of a savior. At the darkest moment of the existence of our Union, when the flickering light of hope seemed on the point of being extinguished, the *Monitor* burst upon the scene and snatched victory and national salvation from overthrow and chaos."

A. B. B.

## Engelsholm

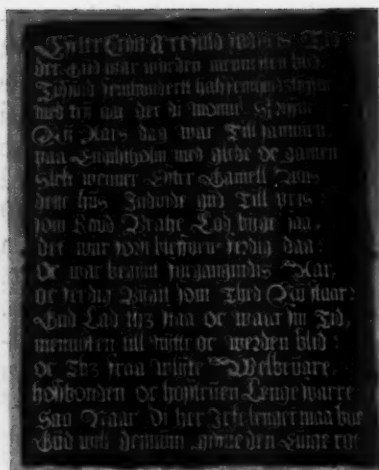


PLATE PUT UP BY KNUD BRAHE TO  
COMMEMORATE HIS HOUSE-WARMING

Engelsholm, the home of the Bech family, is one of the Danish castles that have more of the graciousness and charm of the private country manor than the cold stateliness of a castle. It nestles among the beech trees in a deep valley, ten miles west of Vejle, a beautiful Jutland town which all tourists visit. The old castle is surrounded by a moat, and receives its character from the four square towers surmounted each by two cupolas, the smaller and uppermost one being topped by a spire ending in a weather vane in the form of an angel. No wonder it was called Engelsholm!

The name, however, antedates the present castle, for Engelsholm was first heard of about the year 1400 and stood on a site a few hundred yards distant from that of the "new" building which dates from the end of the sixteenth century. It was built by Knud Brahe, a brother of the



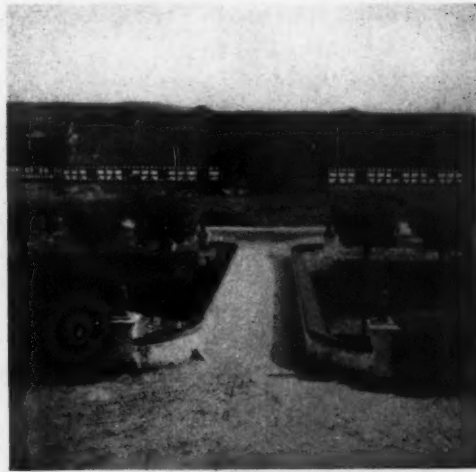
ENGELSHOLM SEEN FROM THE SOUTHWEST

famous astronomer, Tycho Brahe, who is said to have designed it. On New Year's Day, 1593, Knud Brahe took possession of it with a festival to which his friends were invited, and to commemorate the occasion he put up a plate on the side of the great door with a little verse very beautifully carved in the wood.

The castle remained in the hands of the Brahes and later of other members of the nobility until 1730. Then it was acquired by a wealthy and famous trader Gert Gerhard

Lichtenberg. He not only restored the building completely, but laid out the park with its lanes of square-cut linden trees and beeches. The magnificent old barn, built with lavish use of oak timber besides brick, is also from his day and is as good as when it was built 190 years ago. It can hold between 600 and 700 wagon loads of grain in the straw.

The last owner of the estate was Chamberlain Carl Adolph Rothe Bech, who acquired it in 1873 and always gave it the most loving care. He was the father of Consul-General Bech of New York, who was born at Engelsholm. The chamberlain was a leader in numerous enterprises for the betterment of agriculture and forestry and held various important government positions. His death last January was deeply regretted in Denmark. From a member of his family we have received the picture reproduced here of the old family servant, Line Post, who died at the age of eighty-eight, a week before the master of the house, after sixty-eight years of service.



THE OLD BARN



LINE POST



## Current Illustrations



FRU MATHILDE ZAHLE, WIFE OF THE LATE PRIME MINISTER, WHO RECENTLY RESIGNED AFTER TWENTY YEARS' SERVICE AS RIGSDAG STENOGRAPHER



J. C. CHRISTENSEN, LEADER OF THE DANISH LIBERALS WHO WON IN THE LAST ELECTIONS. HE IS MINISTER OF ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS IN THE NEERGAARD CABINET

*Photo by Underwood*



NORWEGIANS FROM THE MIDDLE WEST ARE FLOCKING TO NORWAY TO MAKE LONG-DEFERRED VISITS. A GROUP OF APPLICANTS FOR PASSPORTS HAVE BEEN PHOTOGRAPHED ON THE CAPITOL STEPS IN WASHINGTON AFTER PAYING THEIR RESPECTS TO KNUTE NELSON

*Photo by Underwood*

## Editorial

**CROWN PRINCESS MARGARETA** The deep and unaffected grief among all classes and parties in Sweden at the death, May 1, of Crown Princess Margareta was a beautiful tribute to an unusually noble personality. It was not the sudden pause that death occasions even among the indifferent and the hostile; it was not merely the conventional sympathy naturally felt for a young husband bereaved and children left motherless. It was a genuine sense that the whole nation had suffered a loss. Princess Margareta of Connaught, who was a cousin of the King of England, came to Sweden fifteen years ago as the bride of the Crown Prince, and at her death was only thirty-eight years old. She had completely identified herself with her husband's country, and spoke and wrote Swedish fluently. Few of the members of reigning families in Europe have known so well as this couple how to adapt royalty to a democratic age. Their simplicity and easy accessibility and the graciousness with which they met demands upon their time took the sting from class animosity. Yet Princess Margareta was not satisfied with lending the glamor of royalty to worthy causes. She worked hard and earnestly to alleviate suffering, and her fellow-workers testify that "the young princess with the soft features and the modest, almost shy manner possessed a power of application and an executive ability that were far above the average." Among her largest undertakings was the organization of twelve hundred women to collect and dispense food and clothing to prisoners of war in the various belligerent countries. An appeal for American aid to this charity was sent the REVIEW by Mrs. Thorsten Laurin, who was a member of the Crown Princess' committee, and when Mrs. Laurin—now also, alas! among the dead—tendered her the American contributions, the Princess thanked her and the givers with a warmth that gladdened those who had been instrumental in bringing this small help from overseas. Not least was the Princess appreciated among the women of the laboring classes. When the privations of wartime put the house-keepers in sore straits, she devised various practical means of aiding them. For instance, when the dearth of artificial light tried the hearts and tempers of all, she sent messengers around to the well-to-do homes in Stockholm and collected any bits of candles that might lie forgotten in store-rooms, and these were done up into bundles for distribution among the very poor.

It is difficult to understand the stroke of fate that robs Sweden of its beloved Crown Princess at a time when such as she are so well needed in high places. We may only hope that by that very death, which seems so inscrutable, the memory of her spirit may live the more vividly in people's hearts.

**NANSEN'S TASK** Fridtjof Nansen is at last to be given an opportunity for that large international humanitarian service for which he is so well fitted by character, ability, and by the confidence he enjoys among people of all nations. It was a disappointment when his plan for feeding Russia was in some mysterious manner frustrated last year. It is all the more gratifying that he has now been given a mandate from the League of Nations to succor those unfortunate prisoners of war who have been a lost and forgotten legion these many years—much as the Swedish prisoners of war were after Poltava.

Nansen's task will be to reach those prisoners who are scattered to the most distant parts of Siberia. It is estimated that their number is about 200,000. Most of them are Germans and Austrians, though some are Czecho-Slovaks. They have been prisoners since the early part of the war, some since 1914. Although they are now no longer actually held in confinement, they are without means, without sufficient clothing, surrounded by a vast hostile country with a disorganized transportation system. Weakened as most of them are by these five years of physical and mental suffering, it is almost impossible that they should individually make their way to the stations where prisoners are being collected for transportation home.

The International Red Cross has already begun an exchange of prisoners across Esthonia, and it is probable that other routes may be opened to the south and to the north. It is possible that Professor Nansen may be able to send some of the prisoners in Siberia down the great rivers to the Arctic Ocean and thence home by way of Norway.

**AS OUR VISITORS SEE US** President Castberg, after his return to Norway from the International Labor Conference in Washington, summed up his impressions in the concluding paragraph of a lecture on his experiences here. He said: "However short the time spent there, a visitor in America can not help but get an impression of a tremendous moral power by virtue of which this great nation will sometimes move with an almost elemental force, along large, simple moral lines, as when it entered the war, and when it suddenly swept out the saloons against great opposition. We may think of prohibition what we will, but no one can dispute that the people looked upon it as a great moral duty. Therefore the movement was irresistible. It is true—and this is confirmed by our personal impressions while in Washington—that the outlook is gloomy for those who hope that America will awaken to her obligations as a great nation, that she will not retire within her own shell, but take up the duties that belong to a great progressive, civilized nation. Yet I believe that the national sense of duty will in the end gather such momentum that America will be the leader in the movement for peace and justice."

## Current Events

### Sweden

¶ The death of the Crown Princess interrupted King Gustaf's visit to Nizza, where he was trying to recuperate after the strain of the past years which had affected his health. On the way the King visited Paris and London. He had a political conference with President Deschanel, and in England he pleaded that more British coal be sent to Sweden. ¶ The tentative agreement between Sweden and the Russian delegation, which began its negotiations in Scandinavia, is held in abeyance until it is seen how Krassin is received by the Western powers. He promised to pay gold for Swedish railroad material and agricultural machinery, but it is quite possible that the protest of France against the paying out of gold that belongs to French creditors may prevent the closing of the bargain. Nevertheless many Swedish manufacturers are accumulating large stores with the view to exporting them as soon as trade relations with Soviet Russia are reopened.

¶ The new marriage law of which mention has been made in the REVIEW was passed in April with a majority of 83 against 41 votes in the first chamber and 126 against 26 in the second chamber. The law, which is probably the most radical of its kind in the world, is yet under consideration in Norway and Denmark. ¶ The other great and vital question before the Riksdag, that of communal taxation, has not yet been settled. It has been hinted that the Government may resign if its proposition is rejected, which seems likely to happen. In that case Sweden will probably have a business cabinet until the elections show which party is the strongest. ¶ An intermezzo with a bearing on foreign policies occurred after Easter, when Dr. Kapp, the leader of the reactionary revolution in Germany, was discovered in the small town Södertelje, a short distance south of Stockholm. He had arrived in an aeroplane from Germany and had been in Sweden for some weeks before he was discovered and taken into custody by the police. The Government granted him the right of asylum, and he will remain unmolested though under surveillance. ¶ There is still great unrest in the labor market. The settlement of the great strike of metal and iron workers did not bring peace as had been hoped. On the contrary, there has been one smaller strike after another, especially in the building trades, and in order to put an end to this guerilla warfare the employers finally declared a lockout in the entire building industry. Under these circumstances there is no immediate prospect of a relief in the housing situation, which is quite desperate all over the country. In the typographical trades there was a movement afoot to raise wages, but when the owners of the printing plants threatened instant lockout, the men refrained from further action.



## Norway

¶ The latest newspapers from Norway confirm the supposition of the REVIEW that Amundsen has not abandoned his plan for reaching the North Pole. *Tidens Tegn* for May 1 prints a telegram apparently sent by *Maud's* wireless telegrapher from Anadyr on the Asiatic coast of Behring Strait to Nome and relayed from there via Seattle to Christiania. The message seems to have been written at the beginning of 1920. Amundsen explains why he was forced to go into winter quarters a second time on the coast of Asia instead of, as he had intended, starting for the Pole last September. He had reached Jeanete Island and had already made the ship fast to the ice, when it was found that the ice was rapidly drifting southward. There was nothing to do but to cast loose again and to continue farther east. After an extremely dangerous passage, buffeted about by northwest storms, tossing on heavy seas among the icebergs, with pitch black nights lighted only by flashes of aurora borealis, he reached Aion Island, and decided to spend the winter there, although the position of the *Maud*, exposed to the pressure of the pack-ice, was anything but comfortable. This summer he intended to go to Nome, where he expected to arrive with the *Maud* in July or August, and from there he will start for the Pole via Wrangel Island, as early as the ice permits him. Amundsen asks his friends to write to him at Nome. ¶ At the urgent request of tradesmen in northern Norway, the Government has appointed a commission to investigate the possibilities for the reopening of trade with Russia. Even now the old trade between northern Norway and northern Russia, which has centuries of tradition and custom behind it, is not absolutely broken. Boats occasionally pass back and forth, and Norwegian business men in Archangel are fairly well treated, although their property—chiefly lumber—has been “nationalized.” Norwegian traders and fishermen are anxious to export fish to Russia, which was formerly one of their most important markets, owing in part to the large number of fast days in the Greek Church. The trouble, however, is that the Russians have nothing to sell, though they are now making efforts to move northward such goods as hemp, flax, and brushes, as well as grain. Owing to the Allied blockade of Russia, the only way of free passage into the country is via the ports in northern Norway. A delegation of Swedish working men who went to investigate the possibilities for a mass emigration of metal and iron workers into Soviet Russia traveled from Stockholm via Narvik, Vardö, and Murmansk to Moscow. ¶ The spring labor troubles began as expected with the annulment by the workers of agreements affecting 50,000 men on April 1. The men demand increases in wages to meet an increase since last year of 30 to 35 per cent in the cost of living, three weeks' vacation on pay, and the establishment of industrial councils.

## Denmark

¶ The Danish soldiers who marched into North Slesvig May 5 were welcomed by the Danes with exuberant joy, while even the Germans received them, though naturally without enthusiasm, with a decent civility and a calmness that promises well for the future. In the Flensborg district agitation for internationalization is still carried on. The people have confidence in the new premier of Denmark, who, however, has not committed his Government to anything more than an effort to aid the people of central Slesvig to preserve their nationality unhampered by oppressive measures. ¶ The new ministry, which took the reins of government after the elections on April 26, is of purely Liberal composition, though it will have the support of the Conservatives both in its Slesvig policy and in its efforts to reduce the budget and to ensure economic peace. Ten of its members have formerly been ministers. Niels Neergaard, the new premier and finance minister, has had a seat in several cabinets and was premier in 1908. J. C. Christensen, now minister of ecclesiastical affairs, has also a long record as minister and was premier from 1905-8. Much interest naturally attaches to the foreign minister. Harald Scavenius, the third Scavenius to hold the portfolio of foreign affairs, distinguished himself greatly while Danish ambassador to Russia during the transition to Soviet rule. He was called to Paris to testify before the Supreme Council and is known for his pronounced French sympathies. He is an expert on the Baltic situation, which will surely loom large in the policies of the Northern nations in the near future. The other members of the Government are: Klaus Berntsen, minister of defenses; Sigurd Berg, minister of the interior; Jacob Appel, minister of education; M. N. Slebsager, traffic minister; Svenning Rytter, minister of justice; Thomas Madsen-Mygdal, minister of agriculture, and Tyge J. Rothe, minister of commerce. ¶ A significant item in the Government programme as laid before both houses of the Rigsdag is the declaration that there must be peace in the economic world and that the transportation necessary to import and export trade must go on. This means that the Government will take measures to protect the public against the consequences of the illegal strike of dock laborers and marine firemen which has again been tying up the ports of Denmark. ¶ Last February an organization of volunteers was formed under the name Community Aid to deal with such situations. It is composed of active and passive members, the latter paying annual dues of 5 kroner, the former placing their services at the disposal of the State or municipality whenever a strike threatens the welfare of the community as a whole. According to a cable, the society has grown to such proportions that in May it was able to unload all the perishable foodstuffs from steamers in the port of Copenhagen and even to reload some.

## Books

### DANISH ACHIEVEMENTS IN AMERICA

- DANSKE I KAMP I OG FOR AMERIKA FRA CA. 1640 TIL 1865. Af P. S. Vig. Omaha: Axel H. Andersen. 1917. 400 pages. Price \$2.50.
- DANSKE I AMERIKA. Andet Bind. 1-8 Hefte. Minneapolis: Chr. Rasmussen Publishing Company. 1916-1918. 512 pages. Price \$4.00.

*Danske i Kamp* is an interesting volume of 400 pages which will do more to make good citizens of the Danes—if this be necessary—than most of the loose so-called Americanization talk that fills the air to-day. Many of our Americanization experts are undoubtedly on the wrong track. You cannot make a good citizen of a foreigner by knocking all the foreign out of him. Make him feel that members of his race have helped to build this nation, that the best men of his people have sacrificed their very lives for its maintenance and welfare, and you will have led him a long way on the road to Americanization, you will have made him feel that he has a part in the history of the country and its institutions, the basis of all true patriotism.

It is unfair to criticize the book from a scientific point of view, for it makes no pretense of being scientific. The author attempts to tell in a simple way the "war-history of the Danes in America," and in this he has succeeded tolerably well.

The general introduction is somewhat padded, and in several other places the account could be condensed with profit. Here and there unnecessary details burden the narrative. There is often a lack of critical discrimination of sources, and the conclusions are not always justified. The Danish patriotism of the author now and then runs away with his judgment, so that he is apt to overstate and is not always careful with his facts. To cull an instance at random, on page 183 he says: "The number of Danes in the United States in 1864 is therefore, at a liberal estimate, between 9,000 and 10,000, counting men, women, and children. Granting that a comparatively large number of these were young men in their prime, we may say that a third of the Danish population of the first and second generations were young men capable of bearing arms. This gives us about 3,000 or 4,000 of them. How many of these were along in the great war? I am not able to answer this question with a definite figure, but so far as I can make out, their number would be between 1,000 and 1,500. In other words, one out of every three or four of the Danes was along in the American Civil War. I doubt whether the immigrants from any other nation could equal the Danes. Perhaps some would ask: But were there not many more Norwegians than Danes? Yes, but the number of Norwegian immigrants in America in 1864 was more than 32,000, and the number of the Swedes was about the same. Does the contribution



GENERAL CHRISTIAN THOMSEN CHRISTENSEN, WHO WAS BORN IN DENMARK, 1832, SERVED THE UNITED STATES AS SOLDIER, PHILANTHROPIST, BUSINESS MAN, AND DIPLOMAT, AND DIED IN HIS ADOPTED COUNTRY 1905

Illustration from "*Danske i Kamp*"

of these immigrants to the American army reach 8,000 or 10,000 from either group? I doubt it."

In the one case he takes one third of the Danish men of military age and arrives at "between 1,000 and 1,500," in the other case he takes one third of the sum total of all the Norwegian and Swedish settlers and arrives at 8,000 or 10,000.

However, it is not our desire to find fault, we wish to encourage. It is to be hoped that every Dane in the country who holds "*Fædrene's Minde i Aere*," will acquaint himself with the contents of this book—it will make him a better citizen of our Republic.

The publication of a work like *Danske i Amerika* is an event of some interest and deserves special attention at this time, when, in the whirlwind of lavishly supported propaganda, we are apt to forget that the small nationalities have contributed, in some cases, more than their

share to the growth and development of this nation. It is unfortunate that the book is not written in English.

The present volume belongs to a series, the first part of which appeared in 1908. It seems that forty-four writers—one of whom is a woman, Mrs. Christensen—have contributed signed articles or chapters (four of these being the result in each case of the collaboration of two contributors). Many of the short introductions and general chapters are not signed.

The book is "a warehouse of miscellaneous information" about Danish settlements and settlers in America during the nineteenth century. But it lacks system, plan, and continuity of execution and scarcely deserves the name of a history. Thus, for instance, after the



general introduction to the volume with statistics, follows an account of the Danes in Walnut Creek, Kansas. Then comes an introduction on Kansas, succeeded by a summary on the Danes in that state. We now naturally expect to find other Danish settlements in the "Sunflower State" treated in immediately succeeding chapters, but instead we come to sketches of the Danish colonies in Illinois and Nebraska; then we hit upon a long and interesting narrative of Racine, Wisconsin, followed by accounts of the Danes in Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, again Minnesota and Nebraska, then Minnesota and Kansas, and finally North Dakota, interspersed with chapters of biography, anecdotes, and other matters. It is obvious that few readers will obtain a clear conception of the history of the Danish settlements in the United States from such a jumbled arrangement of facts. Besides, the material is disproportionately distributed, without proper consideration for values. Yet the book is not without merit and will remain for years to come an important source for students of our foreign elements in this country. The publishers are to be congratulated on this undertaking, and they deserve a full measure of success, although some of us would wish the book somewhat differently planned and edited.

AMANDUS JOHNSON.

THE FACE OF THE WORLD. By Johan Bojer. Translated by Jessie Muir. New York: Moffatt Yard and Company. 1919. Price \$1.75.

The author of *The Face of the World*, a Norwegian writer of distinction, has always tried to solve, in a profound study of character and environment, the problems of life. To these problems, presented through the medium of an enthralling story, he offers in each book a separate and individual solution, but, as in an algebraic problem, all these answers are true and equal to each other, for there is only one power great enough to make life of value.

In this most recent of his books, Bojer presents anew the question of how far it is possible or right for an individual to change what he feels to be wrong with this earthly scheme. In all his earlier books, his heroes set out, lightheartedly, to stamp their ideals upon humanity, only to find humanity turning upon them like a robber and, having snatched away their treasure, leaving them bruised and dazed, to clamber out of the mire as best they can.

Just so in Harold Mark's case, in this present book, the effort of the individual reformer, the conscious, unintentionally egotistic effort, first on the grand scale, and then in the matter of the one man whom he tries to lift suddenly to a higher moral plane, brings no result to the idealist but heartsick discouragement. His first happiness thrown away, his future uncertain, his theories destroyed, he looks despondently again upon the face of that world he had tried so hard to change. And as he looks, a delicate harmony compounded of strange wild notes and broken chords steals upon his ear, and it seems to him that a little tender smile is growing in the eyes that he is watching. Sister Alma is playing. He has discovered the solution of life's problem. It is love.

ELIZABETH J. MACINTIRE.

## Brief Notes

The achievement of the St. Olaf Lutheran Choir of Northfield, Minn., which won lavish praise from critics in Chicago and New York, is a proof of the fine results that may be obtained in a small place, far from musical centers, where there is an opportunity for reverent concentration on one task, and where performers and audience meet each year with a higher ideal and a more sensitive response until a noble tradition is built up. Naturally such a result would be impossible without a high type of leader like F. Melius Christensen, who has been musical director at St. Olaf for a number of years. Perhaps the Norwegian College will, in time, evolve an institution like that of the Messiah Week at Bethany College, Lindsborg. At the concert in New York, in Carnegie Hall, April 27, the St. Olaf Choir sang a programme entirely religious in character, designed to show what can be done with the fine Lutheran heritage of church music. In some of the hymns, notably the spiritual battle hymn, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," the arrangement was too elaborate to give the breadth and sweep that are, after all, their chief beauty, but there was a purity and finish in the singing of the fresh young voice which few choirs ever heard in New York have equalled.

Madame Signe Lund has recently sailed for Norway, where she will make her home in the future. Madame Lund, who comes of a Norwegian family of artists, has done work of high distinction both as a composer and as a teacher during her nineteen years in this country. The greater part of that time has been spent in Chicago and New York. During the past year, however, she has been musical director in the State Normal School in Mayville, North Dakota, where she succeeded in giving a stimulus to the musical life of the school which, it is to be hoped, will be lasting. Her enthusiasm and ability won high praise in the local press. Madame Lund was much struck by the responsiveness and the conscientious application of her pupils, most of whom were of Norwegian descent.

Swedish papers record that the Swedish Academy, before declaring itself unable to find a worthy candidate for the Nobel prize in literature, offered it to the lyric poet, Erik Axel Karlfeldt, who, however, declined the honor. As Karlfeldt is the secretary of the Academy, he may very properly have felt that it was not well to keep the prize, which is intended for the whole world, too much in the narrow circle of Swedish letters.

Few forms of art have begun on a more sordid commercial basis than that of the cinema. Victor Oscar Freeburg's *Art of Photoplay Making* (Macmillan, 1918) approaches the whole matter from the standpoint of art. The photoplay draws upon

many ancient forms of art—literature, stage, painting, sculpture, music, ballet, pantomime—but it contains the new element of continuous motion. Improvement depends not upon the producer, nor upon the cinema company which must measure success by the box-office receipts, but upon the taste and standards demanded by the public. "The distinctive rôle of the motion picture play is to give refined pleasure to a cultured world by mobilizing the ever-originating, ever-vanishing visible forms which nature can produce, or imagination can transform into the material of art."

The latest addition to "Children of Other Lands" books (Lothrop, 1919, \$1.00) is a volume of autobiography, entitled *When I Was a Girl in Iceland*, by a native of that northern isle, Holmfridur Arnadottir, instructor in Icelandic and Danish in the Department of Extension Teaching, Columbia University. The vividness of her home experience and the quaint hesitancy of her style will make this book an appealing interpretation of Iceland to children. Here they may follow the girls and boys of northern Iceland to the sheepfold, ride with them on ponies down the bay to welcome trading steamers from Denmark, cross the mountains on skis to the far-off school, swim in the warm pool at Reykjavik, and listen to the sagas read in the *badstofa* of a winter evening.

The International Council of Women, under the presidency of Lady Aberdeen, will meet in Christiania, September 8, 1920. A very large attendance is expected, as women all over the world are anxious to form again the connections that have been broken for six years. The Norwegian hostesses are preparing to receive about two hundred delegates from the twenty-six councils that belong to the world organization.

Countess Suzanne Raben-Levetzau is at work on a series of water colors illustrating the tales of Saxo Grammaticus. The talented young artist intends to bring out her work in the United States, and with this in view is translating a selection of the tales from the modern Danish version into English. She is a sister of Mrs. Lithgow Osborne, wife of the former secretary of the American Legation in Copenhagen, and has visited this country.

The splendid new high school building on Lincoln Street, Chicago, is named after a Swede, the late Mr. Robert Lindblom, who was president of the civil service commission and member of the school board. Though the building has already been opened for use, the Swedes of the city do not intend to let the occasion pass without a solemn dedication to commemorate their countryman and his contribution to Chicago's civic life.

## The American-Scandinavian Foundation

*For better intellectual relations between the American and Scandinavian peoples, by means of an exchange of students, publications, and a Bureau of Information:—*

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### The American-Scandinavian Foundation:

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation was held in New York, May 1. In the absence of the president, Professor Schofield, owing to illness, the former president, Dr. Frederick Lynch, presided. The Secretary introduced Dr. Helmer Key, editor-in-chief of *Svenska Dagbladet* and one of the founders of Sverige-Amerika Stiftelsen, who brought a greeting from the sister organization in Sweden.

Professor Hovgaard reported on behalf of the Committee on Applications the appointment of forty exchange fellows for the academic year 1920-21 besides two Poulson Fellows from Denmark and a number of honorary fellows. The Secretary then announced that he and Mrs. Leach wished to place at the disposal of the Foundation for the period of four years an annual traveling fellowship of \$1,500 to promote academic relations between Dr. Leach's Alma Mater, Princeton, and Norway and Denmark, the fellowship to be awarded every other year to a Princeton graduate for study in Norway or Denmark and every other year to a Norwegian or Dane for study at Princeton. Furthermore, the Secretary and Mrs. Leach desired to present the Foundation with an additional fellowship of \$1,200 for study in Denmark in 1920-21 to be awarded to a student designated by them.

So far as is known, the student interchange now made effective by the American-Scandinavian Foundation and its sister organizations abroad is the largest reciprocal exchange of students operating between any countries. A complete list of the public-spirited donors who have made it possible is given below:

Donors in Denmark are: H. N. Andersen, President of the East Asiatic Company; Emil R.

Gluckstadt, President Landmandsbanken; Alexander Foss, President Danish Manufacturers' Association; H. P. Prior, Cable Manufacturer, Minister of Commerce, and President of the American Society of Denmark, who shared the subscription of one fellowship with Mr. Foss; C. M. Cold, President United Steamship Company; Aage Löwener, manufacturer.

The donors in Norway are: Joachim Grieg, Bergen, ship-owner; Johan Ludwig Mowinckel, Bergen, ship-owner and former President of Parliament; Rudolf Olsen, Christiania, ship-owner and honorary Consul General; Alfred Whist, Christiania, insurance director; Den Norske Kreditbank, Christiania.

The American donors to the Danish student exchange are: Brown Brothers & Company, New York, bankers; John M. Larsen, Chicago and New York, engineer and inventor; National City Bank, New York; Niels Poulson Fund; Geo. H. McFadden & Bro., Philadelphia, cotton merchants.

The American donors to the Norwegian exchange fellowships are: Brown Brothers & Company, New York, bankers; Liberty National Bank, New York; National City Bank, New York; Niels Poulson Fund; C. Henry Smith, San Francisco, shipowner.

In addition, Henry Goddard Leach of New York has contributed a fellowship operative between Princeton University and the Universities of Denmark and Norway.

The recipients of the Fellowships have been announced in the June Number.

The Exhibition of Paintings by American Artists of Swedish Descent, held under the auspices of the Foundation in the galleries of the National Academy of Design, New York, was well attended in the week that it was shown here.



Associates of the Foundation and a few other friends were present at the formal opening, which took place on Sunday afternoon, May 16. The exhibition was shown here while en route to Sweden, and the entire undertaking, unprecedented in the history of Scandinavian-American intercourse, is the outgrowth of the exhibitions that began modestly ten years ago and have been held regularly ever since in the Swedish Club in Chicago. Mr. C. S. Peterson, to whose enthusiasm and patient endeavor their success is largely due, made the most interesting statement heard at the opening in New York when he said that an average of not less than 80 per cent of the pictures hung in the Swedish exhibitions in Chicago were sold, showing how a love of art has grown out of the love of a racial heritage. The formal opening of the exhibition was made by Minister Morris, who had just come in that morning from Stockholm and had been invited by wireless to officiate. Brief speeches were made by Director Fox of the Brooklyn Museum and by Swedish Consul-General Lamm. The Swedish Glee Club sang some of their most beautiful songs, and tableaux were shown under the direction of Mrs. Helga Hoving, to the music of Sjögren's Erotikon.

In these days of paper shortage and consequent press curtailment it will perhaps interest our large exchange list to know the ultimate use to which their newspapers are put. After reading them and clipping what we wish to preserve in our vertical information file, the papers are given to the American Library Association, who use them in hospital and other work among the foreigners on Ellis Island, where they are much enjoyed.

#### Jamestown Chapter:

The charter membership of the Jamestown Chapter has been closed with a total membership of 64. Among them is Mayor Samuel A. Carlson and a number of representative men and women of Jamestown.

#### The Review:

One of our Associates in Canada, Mr. H. Bollemose, writes: "With great interest and pleasure have I seen the 'Slesvig Pictures' in your valuable magazine for May. Please allow me to call your attention to a mistake. H. P. Hanssen's newspaper *Heimdal* is not published in Haderslev, but in the other North Slesvig town, Aabenraa. Minister Hanssen's house, in front of which he hoisted Dannebrog, is in Aabenraa, not Haderslev. I have been in the house which used to belong to my grandfather." We are indebted to Mr. Bollemose for calling our attention to this unfortunate error, due to hasty proof-reading.

Dr. Egan's article, "The Question of Language," published in our July-August number last year, has been given added circulation through the Bulletin of the State Normal School at Mayville, North Dakota, which reprints it with the remark that it is particularly applicable to conditions in that state. The president of the school is Professor John O. Evjen, author of *Scandinavian Immigrants in New York 1630-1674*.

A friend of the REVIEW, A. J. Marschall, of Madison, Wisconsin, writes us: "It may interest you to know that the original from which the Skagen Pilot on the front cover of your February issue was copied is in my possession. It is a crayon drawing made by Mr. Krøyer from his oil painting, and given to my first wife, a daughter of Professor Exner."

#### Sverige-Amerika Stiftelsen:

"Respect for the Culture of America" is the heading over a recent article in the Stockholm *Dagens Nyheter*, giving the impressions, after half a year's stay, of the Swedish Exchange Fellows in America. They are here "given the floor," as the sub-heading announces, and the eleven heads forming a wreath about a striking view of the heart of downtown New York seem to be rallying to the defense of American progress.

Letters from six of the Fellows are given, the others to follow later. Dr. Per Engström describes the wonders of the Evans Institute of Dentistry at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Herbert Olivecrona, studying at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, dispels, once and for all time, the myths current abroad about the charlatanism of the American profession of medicine. Dr. Wilhelm Stenström, pursuing physical experimentation in the laboratories of Harvard University, describes the spirit of research, especially that displayed at the laboratories of the General Electric Company. Mr. G. Brandel, who is taking the two-year course instituted by the National City Bank of New York, writes of our combining of theory with practice, and Mr. Carl Ernlöv, studying the English language at Harvard University, makes mention of the same tendency to infuse life into studies, as he notices it among American philologists, who cannot conceive of their science as independent of the art of expression. Dr. Helge Lundholm is enthusiastic over our art galleries, particularly because of the opportunities they allow the students for intimate study of the countless masterpieces.

While our higher education is splendidly organized, the Swedish students are inclined to consider this to be at the expense of individual intellectual initiative. The American student is a school boy, they say. Dr. Olivecrona believes that the strictly regulated—and hence shorter—period of preparation for the medical profession brings better results than the easy-going Swedish systems, for the individual's energies and learning capacity adjust themselves unconsciously to the length of the period of study, which can only be made brief, as in America, through careful economy and intense application.

Professor Svante Arrhenius, president of Sverige-Amerika Stiftelsen, was honored by the Franklin Institute of the State of Philadelphia, which awarded him the Franklin Medal at its meeting on May 19. The medal was received on behalf of his Swedish Majesty's Government by his Excellency Minister Ekengren. At the same meeting a paper by Professor Arrhenius on "The World's Energy Supply" was read by Dr. Allerton S. Cushman.



*Have you*

## Formed a Chapter?

**T**HE Associates of the American-Scandinavian Foundation in Jamestown, New York, have taken a vigorous lead this spring in organizing a local chapter. They have arranged a lecture program, are making a collection of books for the public library, and have applied to the Foundation for a charter.

¶ In Galesburg and Rockford, Illinois, and other points the chapters have begun renewed activities with interesting educational programs.

¶ One object of the chapter department is to make better Americans of citizens of Yankee and Scandinavian descent by helping them become better acquainted. Application for charter is invited from any group of twenty-five Associates.

¶ Write to the Chapter Department for a pamphlet of lecturers or a suggested series of study topics.

The American-Scandinavian Foundation  
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## WASHINGTON NOTES

*News and Comment on Export and Trade Conditions Between America and the Scandinavian Countries*

### IMPROVED PORT FACILITIES

The new warehouse on the waterfront at Christiania, Norway, construction of which was begun late in 1916, will shortly be completed. The structure covers a space of 140 meters in length and 24 meters in width, having a total floor space of 27,000 square meters in its eleven stories. The warehouse is owned by A/S, Kristiania Havnelager on a 50-year charter, after which period the property reverts to municipal ownership. The quay adjoining the warehouse is constructed to accommodate two large or four small vessels simultaneously. The total cost of building and equipment is estimated at \$2,144,000. It is expected that the new warehouse will meet a long-felt need in the expansion of Christiania's port facilities.

### NEW CONCERN FOR BUILDING TRADE

Operating under the name William Louis Dunne, Export Service Engineer, a company has recently been formed for the purpose of establishing closer relations between the Scandinavian merchants and consumers of American hardware, machinery, and allied lines and the manufacturers of these products in the United States. A staff of about thirty expert investigators in the lines mentioned are being dispatched to the Scandinavian area and will remain there for several months. At the end of this time the company proposes to publish for private use the result of the investigation in book form.

### AMERICAN DRUGS BECOMING POPULAR IN SWEDEN

A constantly increasing demand for various American drugs is reported from Sweden in official dispatches of recent date. A serious handicap is presented to a realization of the fullest value of this trade, however, by reason of the freight rate which is in the neighborhood of \$0.335 per kilo (New York to Göteborg) while the rate from British ports is \$0.04. For this reason and because of the adverse exchange, the majority of Swedish wholesale houses are now purchasing American drugs through Great Britain, making payment in pounds sterling.

### FINNISH TRADE FAIR OPEN TO WORLD

Announcement has been made that the Finnish Industries Fair, which will be held in Helsingfors

from June 27 to July 6, 1920, will welcome exhibits from reputable firms throughout the world. It is proposed to make this fair an event of real importance to all countries in the Southern Baltic region, and the administrative council in charge is confident that attendance will not only be large but also representative of the buyers and sellers of many nations.

### MOTOR ENGINES POSSIBLE FOR DANISH RAILWAYS

Tests are being conducted at present by Danish government authorities to ascertain the relative efficiency and economy of management existing between the steam locomotives now in use on the State railways and a new type of motor locomotive, the motive power of which is low grade fuel oil. The scarcity of coal and the unusually high prices prevailing are cited as primary reasons why a change of this character might be highly advantageous. Similar experiments are being made in Sweden, and it is reported that preliminary tests already made have warranted the hope that a substantial decrease in operating expenses may be effected by the change.

### NORWAY LIMITS MOTOR PROFITS

As one means of keeping in check the adverse exchange situation between Norway and the United States, the Norwegian Price Control Commissioner has promulgated a list of profits which will be held to be legitimate for dealers in motor vehicles, but beyond which they may not go. A profit of 15 per cent is allowed on the first 10,000 kroner business; 12½ per cent on the following 5,000 kroner; and, 7½ per cent on sums in excess of the first 15,000 kroner. Calculation of the profit is based on cost, insurance, freight, and duty.

### REMOVAL OF DANISH EXPORT EMBARGO

The exportation of the following commodities, which was prohibited by royal decree of February 10, 1920, is now permissible according to official advices: cocoa butter; game of all kinds; linoleum; cigars, cigarettes, chewing and smoking tobacco; wooden shoes, with or without fittings; and cullet.

### FINNISH-SWEDISH SHIPPING RESUMED

Announcement is made that on May 9, 1920, steamship service between Finland and Sweden was resumed. The service includes Helsingfors, Hangö, and Stockholm, and there are two regular sailings scheduled per week.

## T. LANGLAND THOMPSON

of THOMPSON, SHORTALL & EVANS

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**AUTOMOBILE EXHIBIT IN SWEDEN**

American manufacturers of automobiles and specialized accessories have an opportunity to present working exhibits of their products at the automobile exhibit arranged for as a part of the Norrland Fair at Sundsvall, Sweden, June 21 to 27, 1920. Invitations were extended to American manufacturers to be represented at this fair as a means of extending trade in a line which American products are of recognized excellence, and where favorable comparison may be made with products of other countries.

**NORWEGIAN PAPER INDUSTRY PROSPEROUS**

Recent reports indicate that the wood pulp and paper makers of Norway are at present enjoying an unprecedented era of prosperity. The output for the present year is practically all disposed of already, and exceedingly high prices are being offered for immediate deliveries on the small remaining portion. The one disturbing element appears to be the labor problem, which is in a state of general uncertainty and unrest. For this reason some of the smaller mills have been obliged to suspend sales temporarily because of the uncertainty of their output, and this has created an even higher market for those still selling.

**SCANDINAVIAN REQUIREMENTS FOR WHEAT AND RYE**

World-wide requirement statistics covering consumption of wheat and rye for the year 1918-20 recently made public contain the information that the Scandinavian countries will require an importation of at least 950,000 metric tons of wheat and rye combined during the period mentioned. The

1919 harvest of wheat for the three countries is as follows: Sweden, 259,000 metric tons; Denmark, 161,000 metric tons; and Norway 30,000 metric tons; while the production of rye for the same period is as follows: Sweden, 494,000 metric tons; Denmark, 379,000 metric tons; and Norway 26,000 metric tons.

**PETROLEUM MARKET IN SWEDEN STRONG**

The consumption of petroleum by Sweden has steadily increased, and judging by the large increase in the importation of motor vehicles, tractors, and motor driven machinery, will probably continue to increase. The prices, however, have shown a decided tendency to decrease. The United States is the main source of supply, but Great Britain has been increasing her share in the trade in some of the more refined products, as vaseline.

**NORWAY MAY EXTEND CREDIT TO GERMANY**

The fishermen and fish canning interests of Norway are anxious to extend credit to Germany with which to purchase fish. Germany is the principal market for the Norwegian catch. It is proposed that the government extend the Germans credit for 50 per cent of the cost and the canners 25 per cent, the remainder to be paid in cash by the Germans.

**HARBOR IMPROVEMENTS AT HELSINGFORS, SWEDEN**

The municipality has appropriated the sum of 6,000,000 kroner which is to be used in improving and extending the harbor. The harbor will be deepened, and a breakwater and docks will be constructed.

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## SHIPPING NOTES

### NORWEGIAN AMERICA LINE HAS GOOD YEAR

Six new cargo ships are under construction for the Norwegian America Line. The annual report for 1919, just made public, revealed that the company authorized a 20 per cent dividend. Four of the new freighters—two 9,500 tonners and two 7,500-ton ships—are under construction at the Napier & Miller yard at Glasgow, while the Canadian Vickers, at Montreal, is building two 6,500-ton steamers. No fewer than 61 voyages were made on the company's routes to New York and Montreal.

### DANISH COMPANIES PAY HIGH DIVIDENDS

Denmark, which has an unfavorable trade balance, owing to the excess of imports over exports, is making good profits out of her shipping. The two principal Danish shipping companies, the United (*Forenede*) and East Asiatic, pay, respectively, 60 and 40 per cent for last year. The latter company's profits are, however, largely derived from the sale of colonial products. Other lines have declared dividends of 55 and 65 per cent.

### NEW TONNAGE IN NORWAY

Reports from Norway show that almost daily new tonnage is being contracted for and deliveries of new ships have already commenced. It is expected that the merchant fleet will experience a steady gain during the current year and that by the end of 1921 not only will the Norwegian fleet be as large as before the war, but the average quality of the vessels will be greatly improved.

### FOR THE BALTIC TRADE

A new line is being formed in Bergen for trade with Baltic ports. The plans contemplate a weekly service from Trondhjem, the boats calling at various Norwegian coast towns and continuing to Stettin, Dantzig, Riga and Reval. The chief articles of exportation will be fish and other food products. The same company will operate another line which will carry pulp and timber to Belgium and France and on the return voyage call at a British port for a cargo of coal for the return voyage.

### NEW BUILDING FOR THE SCANDINAVIAN LINE

The magnificent new building of the Scandinavian-American Line will soon rise on the corner of Whitehall and Bridge Streets in New York's busiest downtown shipping center. The building, which is designed by Mr. Axel S. Hedman, is estimated to cost \$150,000. The ground floor is arranged so as to meet the especial needs of the company, while the other floors will be for rent. It is probable that the building will become a center for Danish business in New York.

### SWEDISH FREIGHT EARNINGS

According to official announcements, the unfavorable trade balance of Sweden for 1919 is in part neutralized by the enormous earnings of the steamship lines in foreign service. Their gross earnings for the year reached the sum of 750,000,000 kroner.

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